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SHOW WORLD

WARREN A. PATRICK GENERAL DIRECTOR.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS THIS WEEK

Vol. IV No. 6 CHICAGO January 30, 1909

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THE SHOW WORLD

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMUSEMENT WEEKLY

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Volume IV—No. 6 — CHICAGO — January 30, 1909

JAKE WELLS RETIRES CREDITORS ANXIOUS

Is no Longer Manager of the Leach Company and His Extensive Holdings are Changing Hands.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 28.

The big news and sensation of the hour in the southern theatrical field is the retirement of Jake Wells from the general manager's office of the Leath Theatrical company, which controls all the first-class theaters in Virginia and North Carolina, and whose strategic advantage is such that the Leath syndicate is enabled to dominate the whole southern field.

The "inside story" of the withdrawal of the Wells interests from the Leath company is here told for the first time, few persons outside of the directorate of the company knowing the facts in the case. The writer has it from the best authority that in the latter part of last December the directors made a formal demand for the resignation of Mr. Wells. He was given to understand that if he did not resign he would be deposed. He resigned.

Ten years ago Jake Wells was the captain of the Richmond baseball club. At that time vaudeville was practically unknown in the south. With a few hundred dollars' capital Jake Wells launched in this city the first 50-cent vaudeville house Virginia had ever seen. He was a prime favorite with the newspaper men and they gave him every possible encouragement and assistance. The new venture was attended by surprising success from the start. But after a few weeks the tide turned and the expensive shows Mr. Wells brought to Richmond soon exhausted his resources. The business was about to go to the wall when Charles I. McKee drifted in from Pennsylvania. He had faith in the future of vaudeville here and supplied the capital necessary to prolong the experiment. With McKee's money and brains the enterprise begun by Wells was put again on a sound basis and the house began to make money. Before the end of the first season the theater was doing a capacity business at every performance. During the ensuing two seasons the vaudeville theater floated on the crest of a wave of prosperity.

Then Wells entered the popular price field, organizing a circuit now known as the Wells Bijou circuit, with houses in eleven Southern cities. This circuit has proven a veritable gold mine.

But for the fact that Jake Wells, whose activities in the amusement world have won for him the soubriquet of the Na-

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WHITE RATS AFTER FIVE MORE HOUSES.

Conferences in Chicago This Week While Martin Beck Is Active for United in the West.

An important conference was held in Chicago this week and while no definite action was taken plans were formulated which if they have a successful conclusion will mean five more houses for the White Rats in the west.

Fred Smutzer passed through the city last Saturday. He only spent a few hours in Chicago and stated that he was not here on business, but en route to New York to join Mrs. Smutzer. It was a coincidence that he had a confidential talk with several of the parties who have figured in the conferences this week.

The White Rats say D. J. Grauman, who is to represent the order in San Francisco, has promised to secure several theaters.

Two changes were made in the White Rat bill which opened at Denver Monday night, as it was learned that two of the acts had played that city recently at opposition houses.

Martin Beck is hurrying through the west and his trip is not made for the sole reason of seeing the country.

HIPPODROME DEAL AN ALLEGED FRAUD

Receivers of Big Cleveland Theater Charge McKisson and Other Stock Holders With Collusion.

Cleveland, Jan. 25.

Charges of fraud and collusion are made in a petition filed in common pleas court Saturday by the Citizens' Savings & Trust Company, receiver of the Cleveland Hippodrome Company, against Ex-Mayor R. E. McKisson, Henry A. Everett, John P. Cowing, Chas. R. Morley, W. H. Ramsey, Frank H. Townsend, Max Faetkenheuer, E. W. Moore and David Morison, who are given as stockholders in the Hippodrome Company.

The petition alleges that a scheme was formed by issuing and receiving $1,000,000 worth of stock with the intent that they could rely upon $4,000,000 capital for payment of their claims.

The petition charges that Aug. 24, 1905, the stockholders authorized "syndicate agents"—Morison, Everett and McKisson—to buy from the Hippodrome company two leases for the Cleveland Hippodrome Company, one running 84 years, from the Merchants' Banking & Storage Company, and the other running 99 years from the Citizens' Savings & Trust Company, and to increase the common stock of the Cleveland Hippodrome Company from $500 to $1,000,000 to obtain the transfer of these leases to the Cleveland Hippodrome Company.

Under the agreement it is charged that Morison and McKisson received the stock and issued it to the perons named as defendants.

The petition charges that these leases were not worth $1,000,000; that the receiver does not know what they are worth, and hence the receiver charges that they are of no value at all.

The receiver charges that this stock was issued and purchased as fully paid and non-assessable, but as a matter of fact it was not fully paid up.

The receiver asks judgment against Cowing, Everett, McKisson, Morison, Morley, Ramsey and Townsend for $50,000 each, and against Faetkenheuer and Moore for $25,000, against F. P. Smith for $8,400, against the F. P. Smith Iron & Wire Works for $4,800, against Morison and McKisson jointly for $100,000, and against Morison, Everett and McKisson as syndicate managers, for $499,900.

The court is asked to compel these persons to tell to whom they have transferred any of the stock, if they have transferred any, and to ascertain the liability of the persons who now possess the stock, and to order them to pay up.—FRYE.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A Stubborn Cinderella has made a big hit in New York. See page 4.

Olympic Theater in Chicago may change its policy. See page 6.

Cecil Lean and Florence Holbrook are going into vaudeville. See page 10.

Ray Comstock denies that he acts for the Shuberts in securing theaters. See page 5.

The Alhambra theater will not be devoted to burlesque according to Max Weber. See page 6.

Oklahoma theater managers held a meeting about which there is much secrecy. See page 5.

One hundred rental bureaus have signed the agreement of the Motion Patents Company. See page 8.

George Kleine comes out in an interview claiming he controls the Gaumont films. See page 23.

Martin Beck says moving picture theaters are not hurting vaudeville to any great extent. See page 8.

Carl Laemmle thinks the Motion Picture Patents Company is working along the right lines. See page 6.

Samuel F. Nixon and Sam Harris figure in a suit for the dissolution of the People's Theater company at Youngstown, Ohio. See page 5.

PICTURE EXHIBITORS HOLD STORMY SESSION

Three Hundred Theatorium Owners Pass Resolution But Adjourn Under Gavil.

At a meeting of the Moving Picture Theater Protective Association, held at the Sherman House, Chicago, on Tuesday, over three hundred theater owners passed a unanimous resolution not to apply for licenses of the Motion Picture Patents Co., and then adjourned amidst wild scenes of disorder, almost bordering on riot, when Dan Mulvey and George Hines started to speak in favor of the license agreement.

R. Friedlander acted as chairman; S. Carter, secretary, and D. L. Swartz, treasurer. Francis Wilson and Harry Thompson were appointed sergeants at arms. The chairman called the meeting to order at 2 p. m. and stated that it had been called for the purpose of discussing the license of the Motion Picture Patents Co. He read the letter of the Patents Co. to the exchanges and to the exhibitors, which were printed in full in a recent issue of THE SHOW WORLD, and stated: "It means that they want to compel everybody to pay a royalty on their own moving picture machines, which they have bought and paid for, and which is their own property, if these exhibitors desire to use the output of films placed on the market by the Patents Co. Any exhibitor who does not sign the agreement will be placed on the so-called blacklist, and whether you think so or not at the present time, they will control your own theater, and, if they desire, run you

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INDEPENDENTS SECURE FOOTHOLD IN FRISCO.

Secure Novelty Theater Which Will be a Link in the Chain of Houses in the West.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 23.

The Independents are to invade Frisco and a vaudeville war on a small scale is expected. The Novelty theater has been secured by some one or other whose identity is not known and improvements are under way, after which it will open as the Gaiety.

It is barely possible that musical comedy and vaudeville will be offered. If so it is thought the White Rat acts which appear at Denver and Salt Lake will be brought here. The new policy goes into effect Sunday, Jan. 24.

Jeffries Engaged.

James J. Jeffries, the retired heavyweight champion of the world, has signed a contract with Messrs. Pincus and Harris of the Wigwam theater for an extended tour of the United States. The Coast tour will commence on Feb 8 at Bakersfield and cover three weeks. It is then the intention to go almost directly to Texas and the South—from whence Jeffries hails. Jeffries will be surrounded by eight feature vaudeville acts entitled All America's. Messrs Pincus and Harris have placed the entire booking and handling of Jeffries' tour in the hands of that veteran manager, W. R. Dailey. It was Dailey who brought Corbett before the public.—WILSON.

It is said here that Morris has obtained Jeffries.

O'HARA CROWDED OUT OF GREAT NORTHERN.

Blaney Wanted Him to Appear at the Academy, But the Star of Dion O'Dare Refused.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 27.

Fiske O'Hara, who has been appearing in Dion O'Dare under the management of Charles E. Blaney, has closed his season because he was crowded out of the Great Northern theater in Chicago by Williams & Walker. The star is said to have had an understanding with Mr. Blaney that he was to appear only in the better class of houses. Mr. Blaney is understood to have accepted a week at the Academy for O'Hara in lieu of the Great Northern, where the colored comedians are prospering.

O'Hara make a kick last week by telegraph but Blaney is said to have wired to the company manager to end the season. Manager Ike Speers negotiated with O'Hara for this week at the Miles theater but a lawyer was consulted who advised O'Hara to be careful as his contract with Blaney had seven more weeks to run.

Manager Al McLean stated to THE SHOW WORLD correspondent that O'Hara would not enter vaudeville nor would he appear over the popular priced circuit. The Dion O'Dare has been on the road 23 weeks and McLean says business has been good.—BARNES.

Will A. Page will have a stock company at the Auditorium in Baltimore, opening on Easter Monday.

WAGE SCALE CHANGED; CIRCUSES SATISFIED

Billers and Representatives of Five Circuses Finally Reach an Agreement.

The circus agreement adopted by the International Alliance of Billposters and Billers has been slightly changed and as it now stands it is satisfactory to the leading circus managers of America.

The original agreement had been signed, It will be remembered, by Hagenbeck-Wallace, Sells-Floto and the Cole Brothers and now that the wage scale has been changed so that it is satisfactory to Charles Ringling, the Barnum & Bailey, Ringling Brothers, Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill Wild West and John Robinson shows will sign. It was predicted by circusmen here early in the week that Edward Arlington would sign for the Miller rothers 101 Ranch and that many of the smaller shows would be willing to sign the agreement as it now stands.

Charles Ringling, acting for Barnum & Bailey, Ringling Brothers, Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill, refused to sign at a conference with President George Elliott some time ago and it was feared in some quarters that there would be an open split between the leading tented enterprises of America and the billers. THE SHOW WORLD is glad to announce that both sides were willing to compromise and that the circus sky has been cleared of a dark and ominous cloud.

The meeting was held Sunday, Jan. 24, at the Ringling Brothers office in Chicago and representatives of the three circuses which had already signed were pres-

(Continued on Page 16)

ONE NIGHT STANDS.

Harry Chappell, the genial manager of The Fighting Parson, was in Chicago recently to bid farwell to his mother who was leaving for a trip to Japan.

W. F. Mann says that his attractions, which are scattered all through the country, are doing a fair business. Next season he will have four new shows—Dare Devil Dan, by John A. Preston; Pinky, the Pinkerton Girl, Married in Haste and Her Dark Marriage Morn.

C. H. McKinney came into Chicago last week from Miss Bob White which was on the road only two weeks. He left Saturday ahead of Texas Jack, which the Klimt-Gazzola company are sending out.

Jack Williams is said to be doing fairly well with The King of Tramps, which is appearing in the smaller one-nights.

C. Jay Smith reports fair business for A Pair of Country Kids and Sis Perkins, the two shows now in the east under his management.

Jack Glimes is back in Chicago after a short season with Nixon's Lena Rivers, which closed recently in Texas.

Ed Overholser, house manager at Oklahoma City, went up to Guthrie to see Thomas P. Gore elected United States Senator recently.

Charles E. White purchased a half interest in the Majestic at Portsmouth, Ohio, of Sidney Anderson.

Boyd Burrows has purchased the Lyric at Fremont, Neb., from Grant Smith.

The D'Alberti Grand Opera company dis-banded at Springfield, Ill.

The Gedney Opera house and hotel property at Independence, Iowa, has just been sold by the syndicate owning the property to A. Klime of Nebraska.

Mae Sheldon, a member of the Three Twins company, who had been ill with typhoid at Burlington, Iowa, since last December, has rejoined the company.

The Merry Widow drew the banner house of the season at Burlington, Iowa, getting in the neighborhood of $2,000 at one performance. The house was packed and many people were turned away, being unable to get even standing room.

WESTERN "TEXAS" DID NOT END THE SEASON.

Archie C. Cracraft Says the Organization Is Still En Tour and Prospering in Middle West.

Archie C. Cracraft, advance agent for Texas (Western) writes that that company did not end the season as was printed in these columns Jan. 9. He writes that the company is still playing and still making money.

Mr. Cracraft does not make it plain whether it was planned to end the season and the action was reconsidered or whether some other Texas organization closed which a correspondent got confused with this one. The item came to this paper from a correspondent and a person connected with another company playing Texas was quoted.

At any event the Western Texas is still en tour and appears at Leavenworth, Kan., next Sunday, going to Atchison, Feb. 1, and to St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 2 and 3.

ACTOR CHARGED WITH ENTICING GIRL AWAY.

South Bend, Ind., Jan. 27.

Harry H. Lynton got into trouble here last week, being charged with enticing a fourteen year old girl from home. He insists that his motive in corresponding with the girl was an honorable one and that his sole purpose in writing her was to get her a position.—DUNKLE.

GEORGE GORDON OPENS DORA THORNE COMPANY.

George Gordon, recently manager of Jane Eyre, for Rowland & Clifford, opened a Dora Thorne company at Moline, Ill., last Sunday night. The roster is: George Gordon, manager; Frank C. Braden, agent; Ruby Lindsey, Maudestra Devere, Lillian Devere, Sheridan Davidson, Thomas W. Keeny, Ira Herring, W. H. Neumeyer and Harry Walker.

Flaming Sword Broke Record.

Boulder, Colo., Jan. 24.

The Temple theater under management of G. E. McNutt has reopened with high class vaudeville. The Empire theater has changed hands, opening Jan. 25 as the Fairyland theater, with A. J. Braden as manager. The Curran opera house (R. P. Penney, mgr.), had The Flaming Sword matinee and evening, Jan. 16, and it broke the house record.—BEDFORD.

Premier at Trenton.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 27.

The Girl from Rector's, an adaptation of Pierre Veber's French novel, Loute, by Paul M. Potter, author of the Queen of the Moulin Rouge, will have its premier here Friday evening, Jan. 29.—STEVENSON.

Hortiz Selected for Benefit.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 28.

Joseph Hortiz, in Fritz, the Wandering Musician, will give one performance for the benefit of the Covington Pleasure club, at the State Street theater during the week of February 8.—STEVENSON.

STUBBORN CINDERELLA BIG HIT IN NEW YORK

Princess Amusement Company Has Monopoly of Twin Cities and Alhambra at Milwaukee.

A Stubborn Cinderella, the Hough, Adams and Howard musical comedy which has met with such remarkable success at the Princess, opened at the Broadway theater in New York Monday and advices from Mort Singer, Joseph E. Howard, Frank Adams and Will Hough say that it is sure to be one of the successes of the Broadway season.

The Honeymoon Trail, which has been at the Princess for some time, closed Jan. 26 and that theater will be dark until Feb. 8, when the new offering, The Prince of Tonight, will be produced. The new musical comedy will be given a week's tryout at the Alhambra at Milwaukee before it is seen in Chicago and the first performance on any stage will take place Jan. 31. The cast will include Henry Woodruff, Harry Pilcer, Bert Baker, Adele Rowland, Frances Demarest and Georgia Caine.

Perry J. Kelley, who is the right hand man of the Singers, stated Tuesday that the new piece bore all the earmarks of being a worthy successor of A Stubborn Cinderella.

The Princess Amusement Company has kind of a monopoly on the Twin Cities and the Alhambra theater at Milwaukee just at present. The Honeymoon Trail will appear at the Metropolitan at Minneapolis the first half of next week and The Girl at the Helm will appear at the Metropolitan at St. Paul on the same dates. The two companies will leave Milwaukee Sunday on the same special train. The last half of the week the two shows will be switched from one house to the other.

The Girl at the Helm is at the Alhambra at Milwaukee this week. The Prince of Tonight will be at the same house next week and The Golden Girl will appear there week of Feb. 7.

A Stubborn Cinderella, western, which has not had a losing week this season, is at Los Angeles, Cal., this week and will break the season's record if business keeps up like it began.

JESSALINE ROGERS TO HEAD ORGANIZATION

Ralph Stuart Pronounces Oklahoma's Leading Woman as the Best in the Country.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 28.

It has been announced that Jessaline Rogers will be the leading woman for the new Metropolitan theater which will open in this city Sunday night. She has been pronounced by critics to be one of the best stock company actresses in the country. The remainder of the company has not been announced. The Three of Us has been selected for the opening bill.

The company left New York city last Saturday night under the management of Mark Ellsworth, one of the managers of the new playhouse and have toured Oklahoma cities en route. Rehearsals of the new company have been in progress at the New Amsterdam theater in New York since Jan. 9.

"The best leading woman in the country," Ralph Stuart is quoted as saying, when told of Miss Rogers' contemplated move. "I regret to see her leave New York and only wish I could tell the people out there in Oklahoma City how lucky they are to entertain her."

C. C. Sheldon, managing editor of The Daily Oklahoman, has resigned his position with the paper and has accepted the management of the publicity department of the new Metropolitan theater.—NASH.

HARRY SCOTT COMPANY TO HAVE NINE SHOWS.

Present Conditions in the One-Night Stand Does Not Discourage This Rapidly Rising Firm.

The present conditions in the one-night stands does not seem to discourage the Harry Scott company, for the firm is to have out nine shows next season and eight of them in the one-nights, unless there should be a change in the present plans.

"We have no reason to complain of the business the four Ma's New Husbands are doing," said Harry Scott, Jr. "The shows are pleasing, too," he continued, as he took a number of newspaper clippings from a pigeon hole in his desk. "Why, here's a notice from the Chicago Tribune" he observed, directly, but he took care not to read that one. The interviewer catching sight of a few lines of it happened to recall when the article appeared in the Tribune. It spoke of the numerous companies on the road of the same name. The article was two or three sticks long, but the only reference to Harry Scott's shows was where it stated that the route lists show that there are four Ma's New Husbands on the road.

Outside of this attempt to mislead the seeker after news, Mr. Scott was frankness itself. He stated that while business was not up to former years his firm was not discouraged. Next year, he says, they will have two companies presenting The Wizard of Wiseland, a musical comedy by Eunice Fitch and Harry Scott, four companies presenting The Girl from U. S. A., three of them in the one-nights and one on city time, one company in The Unbeliever, a problem play, and two companies presenting Ma's New Husband.

Sed J. Beschane, who has long been with this firm, will go ahead of one of the Wizard of Wiseland companies next season.

Changes in Merry Widow.

Hannibal, Mo., Jan. 25.

The Merry Widow company here last Monday broke the house record for receipts. The S. R. O. sign was up for two days. $1,438 was taken in, which is $26 better than any day in the history of the Park theater. Mabel Wilbur and Irene Perry, of the Eastern company, joined the Western organization here. Rosemary Glosz, the principal, went to the Eastern company. Miss Wilbur takes the leading role and Miss Perry the part of the Ambassador's wife.—WEISENBURGER.

THREATENED TO RUN AGENT OUT OF TOWN.

Manager J. E. Powell at Fairmont, W. Va., Indignant When Hard Times Are Mentioned.

Fairmont, W. Va., Jan. 27.

Manager J. E. Powell of the Grand opera house threatened to run an agent out of town yesterday because he insinuated that "times were so hard" that his show "would not get anything," referring to the coming engagement at the local theater.

"Why, we haven't felt the hard times here," said Mr. Powell. "I have no reason to complain of the business my house is doing; fact is all of the big shows have had satisfactory returns."

Last Saturday night Madam Butterfly appeared here to $1,000, and a few weeks ago The Follies of 1907 did $1,100 gross on a night. The Man of the Hour did $800 early in the season and a return date has been arranged. Buster Brown did $589.25, Paul Gilmore got $411, The Runaways almost $500, and small shows have had houses ranging along between $150 and $250.

Manager Powell has some splendid attractions booked, among them Girls, The Witching Hour, A Knight for a Day, Graustark Polly of the Circus, The Lion and the Mouse, Strongheart and The Three of Us.

THEATRICAL MANAGER IN JAIL SIX WEEKS.

South Bend, Ind., Jan. 28.

W. B. Hoyt, formerly manager of The Midnight Bell, who was charged with embezzling $25 from Eva Clayton, as told in these columns several weeks ago, was released after spending six weeks in jail pending trial. The judge said Hoyt had been punished enough. Hoyt said he was without funds and did not know what he would do.—DUNKLE.

Opera Houses Burn.

Leavenworth, Kan., Jan. 25.

The Orpheum theater, located in the heart of the busines district of the city, was gutted by fire recently. The loss is estimated at $15,000, about half the total value of the building.

Starbuck, Wash., Jan. 23.

Fire destroyed the Cinderella Opera house, owned by F. M. Rogers, and built last June at a cost of $3,500.

South Bend, Ind., Jan. 28.

Cohan & Harris will produce The Walls of Wall Street by W. A. McGrire, of this city. The Heights, another play from his pen, has been accepted by David Belasco.—DUNKLE.

THE STOCK COMPANIES.

Ella Marshall has joined the stock company at the People's in Chicago.

Harry Keenan closed as leading man of the Gayety stock at Galesburg, Ill., and Gus Arthur is his successor.

Joe Wininger's stock company turned people away at Menominee, Mich., one night recently.

Earl Stirling, of the College theater in Chicago, is writing a story of great players with whom he has acted in the last fifty years.

Manager Koenig, of the Lyric, Minneapolis, will put on the European production of Salome with the Lyric stock company in the near future.

George Drury Hart has gone to Oklahoma City to join the new stock company at the Metropolitan theater. He will alternate the leading and the heavy roles.

Jane Gordon, who recently closed with Maude Adams in New York, will join the Lyric stock company at Minneapolis. She is a very clever woman and has been with Mansfield, Sothern and Marlowe.

W. J. Gilman, who promoted the erection of the Grand, at Winnipeg, Canada, has withdrawn from the enterprise and A. Lando, stage manager of the stock company, is now general manager.

It is quite unusual to hear that a city theater had dispensed with Saturday matinees, but that is what has been done at the Valencia theater in Frisco. Matinees are now given on Wednesday and Sunday of each week.

Laura Winston, who has been playing Olga, in a The Devil company, joined the Burwood stock company at Omaha, to play "Herodius" in support of Bessie Stuart Bacon in Salome. She will later go to Seattle to join a stock organization there.

It is said Robert Edeson turned down an offer to appear in stock at St. Louis next summer when the salary was $1,500 a week. The star was told he could select his own plays and run things to suit himself. Edeson preferred to loaf next summer.

STOCK COMPANY FOR NOVELTY IN SPOKANE.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 23.

J. F. Causey, manager of the novelty theater, 706 Main avenue, has made a decided change in that playhouse. He has done away with the moving pictures, and in the future will present only dramatic plays and comedies. He has secured a stock company from Chicago for the season of 1909. Popular plays will be presented with attractive specialties. A matinee will be given every afternoon and there will be two shows in the evening. The opening will take place Sunday, January 24.—SMITH.

CAMERAPHONE CO. SUES THEATER MANAGEMENT

San Diego, Jan. 21.

B. Manwaring, R. B. Smith and J. Quinlan, managers of the Star theater (pictures), here may have to give judgment in the sum of $1,000 if the suit against them by the Cameraphone Company of America terminates successfully. Also they may have to pay an extra $500 damages.

Failing to prevent the management of the Star theater from using the system of moving pictures known as the cameraphone, suit has been brought in the superior court to recover possession of the picture machine and properties.

Judge Wade McDonald filed a complaint with the county clerk which recites that "The Cameraphone company is a corporation which leases cameraphone moving and talking pictures and all necessary appliances for the purpose of exhibiting same in public places; that it is entitled to immediate possession of a complete outfit as follows: Projecting machine, Columbia graphophones, reels of cameraphone, moving picture films and graphophone cylinder records; photographs used for advertising purposes, all of which valued at $1,000; that said outfit is now at the Star theater and is unlawfully and wrongfully withheld from the plaintiff to its damage in the sum of $500."

The Cameraphone company is represented locally by A. E. McKenzie, agent.

Manager Undergoes Operation.

Iowa Falls, Iowa, Jan. 28.

The many friends in the profession of Geo. E. Gilman, manager of the Wilson opera house at Eldora, Iowa, will regret to learn that Mr. Gilman was operated again for a growth on the side of the face.—FOSTER.

Savage's Shows Always Good.

Danville, Va., Jan. 25.

Henry W. Savage's The Devil, with Campbell Gollan, is creating much talk through here, and while the Savage productions are always first-class, this attraction deserves special mention.—BAINES.

Manager Has Departed.

Troy, Ohio, Jan. 27.

Billy Pullin, manager of the Orpheum has departed for parts unknown according to report, leaving a large number of creditors. He is a man of fine appearance and made a big hit with the fair sex in Troy.

RAY COMSTOCK IS NOT ACTING FOR SHUBERTS

Denies that He Represents that Important Firm But Admits That He is After Detroit House.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 26.

The Colonial theater has been leased for a period of fourteen years to F. Ray Comstock of New York, F. O. Miller, who has been connected at various times with the Ringling and Forepaugh circuses will be resident manager of the house.

Comstock will take charge of the Colonial on Feb. 1, opening with straight dollar attractions. No seats will be held over that price during the season. The opening show will be "The Gay Musician," with Amelia Stone and Joseph Miron as chief in the cast. Other high grade independent attractions will be continued during the season.

F. Ray Comstock began his theatrical career at Buffalo, where he was treasurer of the Star theater. When Charles Hoyt played there some years ago he became impressed with the ability shown by young Comstock and not long after started him out in business. Later Comstock became associated with Charles Frohman, and then became his own manager and producer.

Mr. Comstock has plans for securing a theater at Detroit. He denies representing the Shuberts, who recently were credited with having gained control of the Colonial. He says that he is acting entirely for himself.

"We propose to make the Colonial one of the most popular theaters west of New York City," said Mr. Comstock. "It's location is ideal in every respect and we firmly believe that the theater patrons of Cleveland will appreciate our efforts to present the very best offerings at a scale of prices that will suit every purse.

"All the leading musical and dramatic attractions will be presented at the Colonial in the future, and the highest price to be charged for the best seats will be $1. Only in rare instances will this policy be departed from, such exceptions occurring when attractions holding previous contracts are offered, at which time the prices will be slightly higher. We deeply regret the necessity of this, but it will not occur to exceed five or six times during the season.

"Our policy at all other times will be best seats for $1. Throughout the United States there has been an undercurrent of dissatisfaction over the prevailing high prices charged for theatrical entertainment, with a resultant decrease in patronage, and wherever the more sensible scale of $1 prices has been established it has met with enthusiastic reception."—FRYE.

It was printed in these columns recently that Ray Comstock was believed to be acting for the Shuberts in securing the Colonial in Cleveland and that in the event of his securing a Detroit house it would also be turned over to that firm. Mr. Comstock is likely to deny such a story even if it were true. If Mr. Comstock is acting for the Shuberts attractions could not well appear at the Colonial where prices exceeding one dollar were charged, without violating an existing agreement with Klaw and Erlanger.

The Colonial is a comparatively new theater. At times it has been the home of stock companies, headed by Vaughan Glaser and Leo Ditrichsteln, and at other times "combinations" have played there. —EDITOR.

COURT IS ASKED TO SET THE LEASE ASIDE

Samuel F. Nixon, Samuel H. Harris and Lesser Lights With Two Companies Made Defendants in Suit.

It has frequently been asserted that high finance methods were employed in the organization of the Nixon & Zimmerman, Cohan & Harris, Edward Moore, Lawrence and Edgar Frank circuit around Pittsburg and when Atty. M. A. Norris, acting for the minority stockholders of the Park theater at Young town, Ohio, asked for a dissolution of the the People's Amusement Company, Jan. 21, color was given to these rumors.

An accounting is demanded and it is claimed that by being connected with other companies the majority stockholders have cut all the melons without regard to the wishes or rights of the minority.

In the petition request is made that the lease between the Eastern Ohio people and the Peoples' Amusement Co., by which the Park theater is at present operated, be set aside. Both the above named companies together with Samuel F. Nixon, Lawrence W. Frank, Samuel H. Harris, Randall Montgomery, Gus A. Doeright, John T. Harrington and James P. Wilson are specifically named as defendants.

It is declared in the petition that the Peoples Amusement Co. was incorporated under the laws of Ohio with a capitalization of $100,000. About $86,000 of this amount was issued and is now outstanding. The minority stockholders control $11,800, the remainder being in the control of Messr. Nixon, Frank, Harris and Doeight. Frank who is the secretary of the amusement company is said to be the largest stockholder. Messr. Montgomery, Wilson and Harrington are declared to be not financially interested, personally, but merely acting as directors in the interest of the majority holders.

That the above group organized and control the Eastern Ohio Theater company, in which the minority have no representation, and that the defendants entered into a contract with themselves as the Eastern Ohio Theater company and thus diverted to themselves all the profits accruing from the lease of the Park theater and the moneys from rents, etc., is the contention of the plaintiffs.

The Park theater has not for a long time and is not now paying dividends to the Peoples' Amusement company, due claim the plaintiffs to the lease entered into by the majority stockholders. The majority stockholders, however, are accused of receiving amounts totalling many thousands of dollars which they are now asked to account for.

No recovery for damages would be possible from the Eastern Ohio theater people as a company because the nominal capitalization of this concern which is an Ohio incorporation is only $1,000. For this reason a receiver is demanded to conduct the business and on final order sell the same.

The Park theater is the same one which which has been fighting the Musicians' Union this season, reference to which has frequently been made in these columns. Last week this paper printed that Edgar Frank, a brother of Lawrence Frank, no longer managed the theater.

ENCOURAGING OUTLOOK IN ONE NIGHT STANDS.

Oklahoma Theater Managers Hold Important Session at Guthrie and Say Business is Bright.

Hannibal, Mo., Jan. 28.

There is no falling off in theater attendance here. Every first class production which has visited the city has prospered. This is really one of the best years that the theater here has had.—WEISENBURGER.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 27.

The institutions owned by the Acme Amusement company of which F. M. Gurman is president and manager and F. H. Bradstreet, assistant, are doing an enormous business. The Majestic, under the management of this company, gives a matinee every day which shows the popularity of the Orpheum acts. The Lyric is selling out twice a day also. Wonderland, also managed by this company, is doing well.—GERSPACHER.

Lake Charles, La., Jan. 26.

J. M. Stout, manager for W. B. Patton, when here Jan. 20, said: "Business has been good with us in the south. Large and appreciative audiences have been the rule rather than the exception.—LUEHM.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 28.

Ed. Overholser, manager of the Overholser theater, and G. H. Jordan, manager of the Metropolitan theater and Auditorium, attended the meeting of the theatrical managers held in Guthrie last week. No business of any great importance was transacted, the meeting being called simply to discuss busines prospects. All of the managers expresed themselves as being highly pleased with the business of the past year and the quality of shows making this territory. Several matters of interest to the managers were discussed, but their nature is held secret for the present.—NASH.

Houston, Texas, Jan. 27.

"We are now on our way East after a trip through the West extending as far north as Seattle," said Arthur Warde, who is back with Max Figman, in The Substitute," and the business so far has been very gratifying. This great Western country, a country that produces, has been an especially profitable one to theatrical attractions this season. The high class attraction have done exceedingly well, and even the little ones have been fairly successful."

Two Houses Would Make One.

Bloomington, Ind., Jan. 27.

Sam S. and Lee Shubert, inc., presented Girls at the Harris Grand Jan. 23, matinee and night. The two audiences made one good house, but the performance was highly appreciated, as was demonstrated by frequent curtain calls. Donald Robertson and company played return date Jan. 21 and 22 to rather small audiences. The company came under the auspices of the English department of the Indiana university. The Wolf is the next attraction, followed by the Orpheum stock company. FELTUS.

Benefit for Sufferers.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 23.

A benefit matinee was given for the Italian sufferers at the Spokane theater Jan. 15, and was the means of increasing the fund $260. Those who took part were Jessie Shirley and five of her company in A Virginia Romance; the Farrell-Taylor company, the Astaires; Manning-Ford; Callen-Smith; Leon T. Rogee; Daly's Country Choir, and P. L. Lynwood.—SMITH.

Changes Thick and Fast.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 23.

Just as Butte had become accustomed to John F. Cordray's absence from the Orpheum theater, back goes his successor, E. J. Donnellan, to his former Vancouver managerial position. He is succeeded by Charles N. Sutton, late of Portland, Ore., and who will probably represent the Orpheum interests here for some time to come.—BILLINGS.

Fair Business Reported.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 25.

The attendance was very good at all houses last week, taking the inclement weather into consideration. At the State Street theater, Montana pleased fair audiences, Jan. 18-20. David Higgins in Captain Clay of Missouri delighted a small but appreciative house, Jan. 21. Married for Money did the largest business of the week, Jan. 22-23.—STEVENSON.

Mrs. Blaney Wins Divorce.

New York, Jan. 26.

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Blaney has been granted the final decree in her divorce proceedings against Charles E. Blaney. She was granted the interlocutory decree several months ago. There is no provision for alimony. Mrs. Blaney has the custody of the two children, but Blaney may see them at intervals.—WALTER.

PITHY PERSONALITIES

Chas. A. Stedman has joined the central The Man of the Hour company.

Henry Miller will take The Great Divide to London this spring.

Clara Morris has about recovered from her recent illness.

William Collier heads a movement to free the theater and the lives of the actors of all charitable benefits.

Emma Calve was under the care of a throat specialist at Savannah, Ga., for four days recently.

Ramsey Wallace has joined Williard Mack's company. He had been with The Devil, which closed at Ogden, Utah.

John C. Slavin will appear in a new musical comedy in March, under the management of Frank McKee.

George C. Hazelton will play Edgar Allen Poe in The Raven, succeeding Henry Ludlowe.

Claire Fuller is playing the title role in one of Brodhurst and Currie's production of Texas.

Dakota Reich, of An International Marriage, has been elected a member of the Actors' Society.

Sig Torri is fequently taken for Carusso. The resemblance is said to be striking.

Laura Frankenfeld, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, is with Louis James in Peer Gynt.

Violet Houk, who is with The Raven, is from Knoxville, Tenn., so the papers in that region are giving her many boosts. She is said to deserve them.

Kyrle Bellew discussed his experiences in Central Africa with President Roosevelt the other day, having spent several months in the precise region in which the President intends to hunt.

Dore Davidson has purchased the English rights to The Man on the Box from John Cort. He will tour the English provinces with the production at the close of his engagement with Wagenthals & Kemper.

Minna Gale has a reason for returning to the stage. "Everybody knows that my husband has had reverses," she says, "and I believe strongly that in such an event a wife should put her shoulder to the wheel."

Gertrude Hoffman met with a painful accident at Cincinnati last week. When throwing herself upon the stage at the conclusion of her Salome dance she fell on her face and split her nose. Although suffering much pain she gave her impersonations as usual.

Doris Keane met with an accident during a rehearsal during the rehearsal of The Happy Marriage in New York. She jumps over the back of the sofa, in displaying the buillition of the young wife when her husband returns, and her shoe caught this time. She was unconscious for more than an hour.

Belle Gold is the latest addition to In New York which is now rehearsing in Philadelphia. The cast now includes: The Four Mortons, Cliff Gordon, Julia Frary, Nellie Beaumont, Adele Oswald, Doris Cameron, Irene Franklin, Ethel Pennington, Emma Morey, Porothy McLeland, Major Doyle, Reid Sisters, F. Gianinni and McDevitt & Kelly.

Lillian Mortimer for several years the central figure of sundry vigorous melodramas, has decided to say good-bye to "the thrillers," for good and will go into vaudeville now that "Poor White Trash" is a hit. She announces that she will hereafter not only play the vaudeville circuits but will write sundry sketches and will launch a number of new acts upon the field.

A CRUSADE AGAINST SUNDAY PERFORMANCES.

Civic Federation Busy at Minneapolis While Iowans Seek Legislative Action.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 28.

The officials of the Civic Federation announce a reform crusade in which an effort will be made to stop Sunday performances. No active steps have been taken as yet.—BARNES.

Webster City, Iowa, Jan. 28.

The Des Moines Ministerial Association and other church and religious organizations of Iowa are preparing to make an assault upon the state legislature. They will ask the passage of a sweeping anti-Sunday amusement law. No senator or representative has yet been found to father the proposed legislation, but the movement has gained some favor, having been started last fall, and it is expected that within a short time a law upon the subject will be introduced.—TUCKER.

Austin, Texas, Jan. 27.

The whole country will watch with interest the progress of a bill just introduced into the Texas legislature. It prohibits Sunday baseball, theaters and all forms of paid amusements. Representative Bowles is the father of the proposed measure. Texas with such blue laws as this and its practical prohibition of circuses bids fair to continue in the limelight for some time.

Zimmerman Enters Nickelodia.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 20.

The truth is out at last. It is not Richard W. McFarland, formerly manager of the two Shubert houses here—the Lyric and Adelphi—who is the sole moving spirit behind the Liberty, the new theatorium now being erected in Columbia avenue west of Broad, and which will be opened, according to the present plans about Feb. 1. For some time it has been publicly announced that McFarland was the prospective proprietor, manager, etc. But since the house has begun to take form and promises to be one of the finest as well as one of the largest in the city, McFarland erstwhile secret partner, has stepped into the limelight and shared some of the McFarland glory. He is none other than J. Fred Zimmerman, partner in the Nixon & Zimmerman enterprises (some of them, at least), and chief mogul at the Chestnut Street opera house. It is not rumored that J. Fred intends to abandon plays for pictures exclusively, but it is said that he desires to maintain his high position as the public's friend—when it comes to amusement. The Liberty will seat 1,000, but it is not likely to live up to its title so far as its conduct is concerned.

Trio of Friars.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 27.

Three members of The Friars were in town last week. They were: J. Frank Gibbons, ahead of Mort Singer's The Honeymoon Trail; Harry Luther, in advance of The Girl at the Helm, and Wallace Munro, advance representative of Louis James in Peer Gynt.—BARNES.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

Mortimer Snow will open a stock at the Avenue in Wilmington, Del., Feb. 1.

The Friars will give a dinner in honor of Eugene Walters, Feb. 6.

The Herald Square theater in New York will reopen Feb. 15.

Checkers closed at Brooklyn last Saturday night.

The Mittenthals will revive The Millionaire's Revenge for a 12 weeks' tour.

Billy Sunday is booked at Marshalltown, Iowa, some time in March.

Carrie Nation was egged from the stage at Canterbury near London, Monday night.

The Academy of Music at Durham, N. C., was destroyed by fire Jan. 17.

The New Roland theater at Marion, Ill., has been offered for sale.

The Fighting Parson did nearly $400 at Madison, Wis., last Sunday.

Stage employes of the Fairbanks theater in Springfield, Ohio, gave a ball Jan. 26.

E. E. Clark has given up the management of the theater at Herrin, Ill., and is succeeded by Hill and Little.

Grace Noble attached the Four Huntings company for back salary at Springfield, Ill.

Will Travis recently organized a company at Lincoln, Neb., to play The Poor Mr. Rich.

Bessie Clifford was hurt at Duluth, Minn., by the explosion of a chafing dish at an after theater party.

Mace Greenleaf will succeed Robert Warwick as leading man of the Valencia Stock company, San Francisco, on Feb. 8.

The Star theater in Elgin, Ill., has gone back to moving pictures while repairs are being made on the stage and dressing rooms.

The week of Jan. 18 was a very profitable one for New York theater managers, due in a large measure to the automobile show.

W. S. Cleveland writes that his Prudential Vaudeville Exchange is growing rapidly and states that he will supply 186 parks and fairs with acts this summer.

Arthur S. Fishell has resigned as assistant treasurer of the Garrick in St. Louis to accept the position of treasurer of the Colonial at Cleveland.

Held by the Enemy was presented at Oskaloosa, Iowa, Jan. 26, by local talent, and Otto Henkel, an advance agent, who witnessed the performance, is said to have pronounced it very good.

The Family theater at Gloversville, N. Y., has increased its prices from 10 to 15 cents to 15 and 20 cents, which means better vaudeville, according to the manager.

Sedley Brown has retired from the stage direction of the Valencia theater, San Francisco, and gone to Los Angeles. His position has been taken by Darrell Standing.

There is no truth in the rumor that Prof. Roberts, the trained rat man, had committed suicide. He is in a hospital at St. Paul and will be able to resume his vaudeville dates within a few weeks.

Sarah Marion retires from The Fighting Parson after the performance Feb. 6, on account of ill health. She is to be starred next season in Pinky, the Pinkerton Girl, on the Stair & Havlin circuit, and wants to have a long rest before opening.

A new theater in Huntington, Pa., opened Jan. 20 with Yama. The best seats were $2.50 each. It is a ground floor theater erected by the P. O. S. of A. It has been years since that town had a theater.

The Vaughn-Glaser stock company will open an engagement at the Russell theater at Ottawa, Can., Feb. 15. The company will be in Ottawa three weeks, going from there to Buffalo, Toronto, Cleveland and Toledo for a week each and then to Detroit for 12 weeks.

Dewitt C. Wehber, the resident manager of the Majestic theater, formerly the Empire at Colorado Springs, Colo., is a prominent attorney of Denver, but who, for the past seven years, has acted as general counsel and traffic manager of the Sells-Floto shows. Frank Tammen, his partner, is the brother of Harry Tammen of the Denver Post, and was the manager with the Sells-Floto circus. Thos. J. Myers, former special story writer for the Sells-Floto shows is looking after the newspaper publicity for the Majestic and Harry Moore, last season's treasurer for the Denver circus, is the treasurer of the house.

SAME SHOW APPEARED WITH DIFFERENT TITLES.

Urbana, Ill., Jan. 25.

Mayor S. W. Love has clapped the lid down tight on burlesque. "Pinch the next member of any burlesque who makes a naughty crack," was the edict issued by Urbana's municipal head after the appearance of four shows of this class within two months. Three of these performances were given by the same company under different names, each time to a packed house. When the fourth show was billed devotees became suspicious of another repeater and made complaint.—REA.

Aubrey Yates and Emerin Campbell were married at Denver. At the supper following the ceremony A. C. Carson, manager of the Orpheum; Signora Virginia Guerrini, Signora Emma Cavallieri, Dr. and Mrs. Francis Prewitt and Frederick Northrup were present.

POLICY OF ALHAMBRA NOT TO BE CHANGED

Max Weber, one of the proprietors of the Columbus and Alhambra theaters, this city, denies emphatically that there is any likelihood that either one of these two houses were likely to change their present policy. The denial was brought forth by stories which have been printed in various amusement papers during the past few weeks.

Mr. Weber said: "These stories which refer to the changing of policy in our houses are absolutely unfounded. There is not the least chance of the Alhambra or the Columbus changing their present policy. The report which gained current last week to the effect that the Alhambra would become a part of the Eastern Wheel burlesque is ridiculous. No proposal has been made to us and it is not at all likely that we would consider a proposition if it were made. We are being booked by Stair and Havlin, which reminds me that the stories regarding their 'shifting the entire circuit into pictures' and the like are laughable. Stair and Havlin own three houses and the rest of their circuit comprises houses with which they merely have a booking arrangement. If they want to shift their policy of the circuit they cannot do so without consulting the owners and managers of the houses in their circuit. I would also like to deny the story that either one of our Chicago houses were ever known as 'first money' houses, where the producer had to give up $500. Also, you may state that the houses are making satisfactory money."

Olympic Policy May Change.

The future policy of the Olympic theater, Chicago, will be governed by the success with which the present musical skit meets. The handing of this part of the program entails considerable work upon Manager J. J. Murdock, and unless he decides that its popularity warrants the continuation of same, he will eliminate this from the bill.

Miss Stella Maury will leave the company for a few days, departing for New York this week, where she will undergo a slight operation. Her place in the cast will be taken by Miss Ada Morrison, who is now playing the part of the cashier.

Manager J. J. Murdock has signed Cathryn Rowe Palmer for a year to appear either in musical comedies or vaudeville either at the Olympic or such theater as he may designate.

It is said that Minnie Seligman will probably appear at the Majestic theater, Chicago, next week.

Alice Lloyd will play Western Vaudeville Managers' Association time commencing her engagement February 8.

LAEMMLE IS OPTIMISTIC

CARL LAEMMLE, president of the Laemmle Film Srevice, left Chicago Thursday to visit his branch offices in Evansville, Ind., and Memphis, Tenn. Before returning to Chicago, Mr. Laemmle will enjoy a two weeks' recreation at Hot Springs, Ark. On the eve of his departure, Thursday, in an interview with a SHOW WORLD representative, Mr. Laemmle said:

"Conditions in the moving picture field look very encouraging, and while considerable discussion is going on regarding the licensing of exhibitors, I am of the opinion that a great majority of the cool-headed men in the business will readily fall in line.. I am optimistic—business is moving along at a good, healthy, steady gait, and while we have lost a few customers who are not willing to submit to the new conditions, I venture to say that we have gained three for every one we have thus lost. Relative to the $2.00 a week exhibitor's license fee I personally think it a good thing. I have perhaps given this matter more serious thought and study than any renter in the business, and the more I considered it the stronger I was convinced that the exhibitor is going to profit by it in the end. Take my own house on Milwaukee avenue, in this city, as an example. Why, I would gladly pay $50.00 a week license to the Motion Picture Patents Company if I could thereby get rid of my competition. My profits from that house have been cut down to one-half of what it made the first year. Mind you, the business on Milwauke avenue is just as great as it ever was on the whole, but thet remendous competition has reduced the individual earning power of each and every moving picture theater on that thoroughfare.

"It was high time indeed that the moving picture business was regulated, and I am now looking forward to better times for the film industry than have ever been experienced heretofore. The exhibitors will now get protection which they have badly needed. If anyone has cause to make complaint it would be the renter, because he has been hit the hardest by signing the contract with the Patents Company. I do honestly believe that this contract was really a necessary evil. It will protect honest exchanges and do away with many abuses which have operated against the complete success of the business."

JAKE WELLS RETIRES; CREDITORS ANXIOUS

(Continued from Page 3)

polcon of the southern theatrical field, developed plunging propensities as his wealth increased and his interests expanded, he might now be enjoying prestige and affluence instead of fighting creditors in the courts of half a dozen states.

He built summer parks in Atlanta, Birmingham, Richmond and elsewhere. He backed road companies, he took on business deals with Stair and Havlin, Charles E. Blaney, Otis Harlin, John W. Dunne and others. He built penny arcades, he returned to baseball ventures. He had many irons in the fire.

The former baseball player became a power in the amusement purveying business.

Then suddenly he fell upon evil days. His summer park ventures collapsed. His road companies lost money. The penny arcades lost favor with the public. The dividends of the Leath Theatrical company and the Wells Amusement company began to dwindle at the same time. The Wells Bijou circuit suffered reverses. The Hotel Allen, which he had opened in partnership here with Steve Allen was another losing venture.

Creditors besieged him on every side. Judgments for debt, amounting to about $20,000 in the Richmond courts alone, began to accumulate against him. They are still accumulating here and in other states. The extent of the liabilities of Mr. Wells is unknown, but he is heavily involved. With his holdings in the Bijou circuit hypothecated and his stock in the Leath company, the first class circuit, reverted to the company by the failure of Mr. Wells to meet his notes, he has no visible assets in Virginia. Judgments obtained in the Alabama courts against him and transferred to the Virginia courts for collection indicate that he has no visible assets in any state.

The reason for his retirement from the Leath company therefore is obvious. The company directors felt that it was injudicious to carry him longer, his credit being exhausted.

The successor of Jake Wells as general manager of the Leath Co. has not been chosen. The office will probably go to Charles W. Rex, formerly general manager of the circuit and whom Mr. Wells succeeded when he acquired holdings in the company. Mr. Rex is now in Seattle handling a number of exposition concessions. He will not return east until the close of the Seattle show. The election of a general manager for the Leath company will be probably deferred until late in the spring. W. Greanor Neal, one of the largest holders in the company, is temporarily acting as general manager of the circuit.—GOLDEN.

Jake Wells at Evansville.

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 26.

Jake Wells, owner of the Wells Bijou and Orpheum spent Sunday in the city and was more than pleased with the results of his resident manager, Charles Sweeton.—OBERDORFER.

Epidemic Among Blaney Managers.

New York, Jan. 27.

There seems to be a regular epidemic among the Blaney managers. Phillips, ahead of Turner in the Governor and the Boss, is down with consumption and has been sent to Denver by the Friars, who bought a camp for him there. Will Willfolk, brother of Blaney's wife, is just recovering from an illness which confined him two weeks in a hospital. He has just left Hot Springs to rejoin his company. Whitbeck, ahead of Spooner, is down with pneumonia at a Chattanooga hospital. In fact, the one live man of the bunch seems to be Max Farbish, who is now in Chicago, watching out for the interests of a Blaney show, which is playing a city circuit.

CHICAGO NOTES

Texas comes to the new National theater next week.

Theater ticket scalpers and their confederates won a victory before the judiciary committee of the city council this week when the ordinance to prevent scalping was placed on file.

Rev. A. C. McHenry, a pastor of the People's church, 115 Oakley boulevard, will make his stage debut next Monday as Anthony in Before and After at the People's theater.

Melville B. Raymond is back in Chicago and is making preparations to put out a rural musical comedy with the title, A Country Maid.

Queenie Quineau, formerly with the vaudeville act, Only a Dream, which was seen over the eastern circuits, and who came to Chicago recently to rehearse with A Tramp's Christmas Eve, in which she was to appear with Walter F. Parker, Harry Taylor and Harry Morris, found herself unable to open on the circuits, owing to her voice being in bad condition. While she was laying off she became a demonstrator at the Electric Show and is being pronounced the most beautiful girl connected with the display. An anonymous message reached her the other day to the effect that the male attendants at the show have passed resolutions praising her beauty of face and figure.

Cahn & Mach, a theatrical firm that has been operating in San Francisco, has transferred its headquarters to Chicago, and is making arrangements to send out on the road twelve companies to play musical comedy and melodrama. The firm now has on hand fourteen plays, their titles being: The Isle of Nippon, The Jolly Vassar Girls, Brownie in Toyland, The Pupil and the Gay Musician, Honeymooners in Happyland, A Jolly Wedding, The Royal Comic Opera Singers, Robin Hood Merrymakers, The Wolf at the Door, The Girl and the Governor, Our Village Minister, The Saleslady, The Telephone Messenger, and The Girl Detective.

The National theater, Edwin Clifford's new house, had a particularly big week Jan. 18-23 and a showman who is in position to know what the various theaters are doing thinks that the National had more money in the house last week than some of the theaters in the loop.

There were three acts held over this week at the American Music hall but with the exception of Maude Odell, next week's bill will be entirely new. It will include The Three Juggling Bannans, club juggling; Stuart Kollins and the Carmen Sisters, banjoists; Junie McCree & Co.; The Man from Denver; Clarice Vance, the southern singer; Severin, French Pantomimist; Maude Odell; Joe Welch, Hebrew comedian; Hill & Sylviany, European sensational novelty, and the Morriscope.

Clarice Vance, who can sing southern songs as no other singer can render them, will be at the American Music Hall next week.

Incognito, billed as a South Side girl, will be at the American Music hall in New York next week.

Benjamin Chapin will come to the American Music Hall week of Feb. 8 and will present Lincoln at the White House.

The Texas Jack company which left Chicago Sunday included Harry Cohen, manager; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laiken, Sarah Hamilton; Barney Clark; Charles Hall; Leo Dumont; Harry Woodley and Walter La Blount. The company opened last Monday at Akron, Ohio.

Ethel Van Brocklin is in the city and it is reported that she has been engaged for Dorothy in The Golden Girl at the La Salle. She left the Lyman Twins company about two weeks ago.

FRANCES NORDSTROM TAKEN SUDDENLY ILL.

Lafayette, Ind., Jan. 26.

Displaying remarkable fortitude and nerve, Frances Nordstrom, leading woman with The Devil company now playing the middle west, went through her part at a matinee performance here Saturday despite a severe attack of illness, which caused her to fall in a dead faint just a few minutes before her entrance in the last act. Before a local doctor arrived Miss Nordstrom was revived by other members of the company and proceeded with her lines. After the matinee, she was placed under the care of physicians at the Hotel Lahr, and at the evening performance Diana Oste enacted the role of Olga Hoffman. Miss Oste was new at the character and had never rehearsed the part, but she gave a splendid interpretation of it. Miss Nordtrom was able to join the company at Akron, O. Miss Nordstrom had been ill for several days and this, combined with the suffering from the enforced traveling, resulted in her breakdown.—VANCE.

WHITE RATS BENEFIT AT THE GRAND FEB. 28.

The White Rats will give a benefit at the Grand Opera house in Chicago, Feb. 28, and the members of the order from the various theaters of the city will provide a splendid program. The funds will be used to build a club house.

Change of Policy.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 28.

The Lyceum theater, it is reported, will be converted into a moving picture and vaudeville house shortly.—CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

PORTIONS OF GERTRUDE ARE NOW COVERED UP

The Exposure of Miss Hoffman's Person in Salome Dance Too Much for Cincinnati and Akron.

Akron, O., Jan. 30.

"Naughty, naughty," said members of the Akron Women's Council, composed of all the women's clubs of the city, when thinly draped pictures of Gertrude Hoffman, appearing here today in The Mimic World, appeared on the billboards. "Horrible!" the ladies exclaimed in unison, and straightway they appeared before Mayor W. T. Sawyer in a body demanding that the "indecent exposure" be covered up.

F. E. Johnson, manager of the Colonial theater, was called into conference. Suggestions by several of the ladies that Johnson and the billposters should be arrested, caused Johnson to cast uneasy glances "t'word" a nearby exit.

Finally it was agreed to cover up all parts of Gertrude excepting her features. Last Monday morning the billposters ventured forth armed with buckets of paste, a mop and an arm full of blank white paper. A large sheet was tucked under her chin and slapped over the lower portions of her anatomy, leaving only her head peeping gracefully over the board's white expanse. Salome, scantily attired, in giddy gyrations before the head of John the Baptist, will no more offend the sight of Akronites, especially members of the Women's Council. Several have avowed intentions of seeing her dance, "just to see if it is as disgraceful as the billboards portrayed."—MOORE.

Cincinnati, Jan. 25.

"God help the city that has a mayor like Mr. Markbreit, as he hasn't any moral sense," said Rev. Robert Watson, pastor of the Church of the Covenant and member of the committee of ministers who asked the authorities to suppress Gertrude Hoffman's Salome dance at the Lyric theater last week, in commenting on the mayor's statements that the dance was artistic.

"I viewed the dance through strong opera glasses Thursday night and couldn't see any clothing on Miss Hoffman. If she had any clothing on it was not discernible. Rev. John F. Herget, of the Ninth Street Baptist Church, was with me and agreed that she was without clothing. All we could see were beads and body. Through the beads we could see the curves of the body and limbs. Mayor Markbreit attended the performance the following night when the papers say she wore fleshings. Any person who declares that the Spring dance and Salome as given by Miss Hoffman are clean and artistic is not capable of passing criticim on a moral question.

"The Salome dance represents the passionate actions of a lustful woman for a man—John the Baptist. Her advance repulsed, the woman demands the head of the man, for whom she has an unholy love, on a charger, and when the head is brought to her the passion still lives.

"The very sight of the grewsome thing arouses her lustful passion to such an extent that she grabs it, falls to the floor, grovels, moans, twists, twines, slobbers in a disgraceful display of her feelings. One cannot conceive of anything more immoral. Think of a mayor of a city approving of such a dance.

"I told other members of the committee when we called upon the mayor to ask him to suppress the dance that our mission was useless. He told us on the day that we called that he would not attend the show. He sent out for Manager Fennessy and his attorney and we waited fifty minutes for them to appear. We were obliged to leave the mayor's office without seeing them.

"I want it understood that we did not ask that the dance be prohibited for personal reasons. Persons who had attended the performance solicited us to take some action. Two members of the Catholic Federation were members of the committee and joined in the protests. A letter from a mother who was disgusted at the dance was read to the mayor.

"The play is indecent throughout. It is not historically correct and is the conception of a Biblical story by a degenerate author who has long been in disgrace. One young woman who gave a toe dance was an artist, and her dance was the most artistic of the performance."—RUNEY.

THE STRONG PEOPLE NOT A GREAT PLAY

It Deals With a Great Subject But Author Nor Star Has Realized the Possibilities.

The Strong People, the renamed Pickpockets, by C. M. S. McClellan, is not a great play though it deals with a great subject and is well worth seeing. To those who can be interested in the subject under discussion alone the absence of dramatic strength will not be noticed, and to those who miss the fine points that will doubtless be given the drama as it grows older the great theme is worth while.

The Strong People is not yet well named. If there was any reason in the first place for calling the play, The Pickpockets, it is absent now unless the management wanted to coax some of the radiance away from The Thief, The Devil and other plays which have prospered with names of the same kind. There is a iad in the Liebler production who speaks of the United Mining Company as The Strong People, which gives an excuse for the present title. The change was made in the middle of last week and to make such a switch at such a time is almost unprecedented in the history of amusements.

The Strong Pcople deals with the war of classes. It is inclined to be a bit revolutionary, possibly anarchistic to some minds. It makes a Unitcd States soldier the second villain in the play if not the first, it has but one woman in its list of players, it has no comedian, there is little love interest, and in other ways it proves George Tyler's daring in producing plays which are unusual and which make pcople "think."

It was he who produced The Man from Home, The Battle, and The Melting Pot, and the preference the firm gives Chicago explains why the critics warm up so toward The Strong People. The latest play is on the same lines as The Battle, yet it cannot in its present shape be one tenth so much enjoyed. It is certain that these defects will be remedied, however, and by the time it reaches New York it will be ready for more critical inspection.

Arnold Daly staged the play, and be it said to his credit that he has not "hogged the piece." The fact is that while Daly's part is the one on which the play hinges, yet it is really less important from an acting standpoint than the most of the others. The Col. Pointefex of E. J. Radcliffe presents many more opportunities for acting. The capitalist of Albert Bruening is well portrayed, the Jack Borenski of Gordon Johnstone draws the sympathy of those who have seen the downtrodden workingman to be found in every mining community, the Conrad Borenski of Emmett Corrigan is the best acting in the play, even though he appears in but one act, while Fernandi Elischu plays the role of a Modern Joan of Arc to the satisfaction of the audience and of Mr. Daly, which is probably saying more.

It is not often that a manager would think of producing a play in which a colonel in the United States army receives pay from a mining company to protect its interests; to use the power of the federal government to aid a corporation. Such a thing may happen in real life, for the money power will offer to buy almost anyone and succeeds, it is feared, too often. Police officers, sheriffs, legislators, even governors are bought frequently if the tales of newspapers and claims of the political speakers prove the point. If so, why is it less unlikely that a colonel in the army would accept stock in a coal mining company which he was expected to protect?

Arnold Daly's role is that of a man who has waged relentless war on other concerns in a business way. He has not hesitated to crowd out opposition by means fair or foul. He is feared wherever he is known. The change in his life comes in a moment. He sees that he has been on the wrong track and becomes utterly reckless in fighting to protect the lives of the mob which has gathered due to his acts. He is willing to give his life to spare the lives of those he has wronged.—E. E. M.

Damage Suits Instituted.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 27.

Two suits were filed in the district court last week against the Miles-Bondy Theatrical Co. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Albeck each ask for $1,000 damages for alleged ejectment from the Majestic theater on Nov. 13, 1908.—BARNES.

STOCK COMPANIES IN PICTURE HOUSES NOW.

Merry War on at Beaumont, Texas, and Innovation Sprung at Cleveland, Ohio, in New Line.

Beaumont, Tex., Jan. 26.

Beaumont is in the midst of a theatrical war which grows in intensity and public interest each week. There are now three stock companies playing melodrama here. The three shows are within a block of each other, and in addition the Kyle theater will continue to do business under the Greenwall lease, presenting the usual run of road attractions which visit Texas. Each of the stock companies has a band and each day about noon there is a competitive band concert on the streets. It is realized that the town is scarcely large enough to support so many theaters, and there seems to be a war which will employ the principle of the survival of the fittest.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 28.

A distinct departurc from the usual in the moving picture business has been inaugurated by Will W. Scott at thc 55th Street theater. Mr. Scott opened a season of stock beginning Jan. 18.

Mr. Bob was the first production, followed by The Bully and The Babe. The company is way above the average and has talent of a degree seldom seen in connection with moving picture shows. Illustrated songs and pictures are run between the acts.—YOUNG.

Harry McRae Webster Engages Cast.

New York, Jan. 27.

Harry McRae Webster, formerly stage director of the Orpheum stock company in Philadelphia, and who, since his retirement from that position has organized a stock company to erect a theater at 52nd and Market streets, Philadelphia, to be devoted to stock, was in this city today signing people for the Park theater, Philadelphia, which he has also secured. The house will open Feb. 8. He stated to a representative of this paper that he had so far engaged Ralph Stuart, Paul Thorpe, Hugh Cameron, John Steppling, Ed Wade, Joe Berger, Leah Winsiow, Cordelia MacDonald, Lottie Briscoe, Mary McCabe, Edith Walls and John Flemmings.—WALTER.

Gordon Bros. Get Contract.

Worcester, Mass., Jan. 26.

The Gordon Brothers Amusement Company of this city have architects at work drawing plans for a new theater building to be erected this year in Rochester, N. Y. The building and equipments will cost $200,00. It is to be opened as a moving picture and vaudeville house. A site for the building has already been secured by the company.—ILLINGWORTH.

HANS & NIX CLOSE NEXT SUNDAY NIGHT.

The Revelation Will Also End the Season That Date and Go Into Retirement.

Davenport, Ia., Jan. 26.

Hans & Nix, a meritorious farce musical comedy, has struck the rocks. The show played at the Burtis here to an almost empty house. Coming as it did immediately after A Girl at thc Helm, and preceding so shortly The Merry Widow, two shows with reputations preceding them, the public gave very little attention to Hans & Nix and were unaware of its merit.

The name also appears to be against the show and gave the average person the impression that it was a cheap production. Not only in Davenport, but elsewhere the show has been in hard luck and the management announced they would close and disband at Aurora Sunday night. They quit $4,000 to the bad, according to the report given out here.—HUGH HARRISON.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., Jan. 27.

The Revelation, the Martin & Emery production in which Margaret Ralph was featured, will end its season here next Sunday night. Harry Bryan, the advance agent, left for Chicago Monday after completing his work here. The original Revelation had Mary Shaw as the star. It closed the season just before Christmas. Another organization went out after the holidays with Miss Ralph featured. It was almost a new show, for the plot was changed materially. The revised version proved a failure also. After a few performances at the Alhambra at Milwaukee the house remained dark for the remainder of the week and a tour of one-night stands failed to get any money.

Big Shows Close.

A letter from an advance agent in the west states that Murray & Mack in The Sunny Side of Broadway have closed and that John Cort's Alaskan has also ended its season. His statement is printed for what it is worth.

Sunday Closing Works Hardships.

Galveston, Tex., Jan. 21.

The Sunday closing law has made quite an inroad upon the profits of local managers and it is to be hoped that its rigid enforcement will not continue for any length of time.—SPROULE.

Change in Singers.

Lafayette, Ind., Jan. 28.

Jeanette Allen of Dubuque, Ia., has been engaged to sing the illustrated songs at the Family theater, succeeding James Ryan, who has been at the house for several months.—VANCE.

LIVE WIRE KILLS AN ACTOR IN AN ALLEY.

Frank C. Robinson of As Told in the Hills Receives a Fatal Shock at Mitchell, S. D.

Frank C. Robinson, a members of W. F. Mann's As Told in the Hill company, was instantly killed about 11 o'clock at night Jan. 21, by coming in contact with a guy wire leading from an electric light pole to another pole, some forty feet distant, at Mitchell, S. D.

Mr. Robinson played Little Fox, an Indian character, in the drama, and the company, which was managed by Alex Storey, was obliged to lose Jan. 22. The offices of the firm in Chicago got busy and had Ulrich Kenrade, an Indian, who had played the part previously, on hand for the performance Jan. 23.

Mr. Robinson was 21 years of age and was a native of Salt Lake City.

New House at Fort Smith.

Fort Smith, Ark., Jan. 27.

The New Majestic, with talking phonographic moving pictures and vaudeville, will be opened about February 15. It is owned by John Meyer, recently of the Edisonia, Chas. Jewett and Wm. Moore, all local men with means to make it go. The Majestic is a two-story brick, right in the business center, the lower floor being given over to amusements. The stage is large and its appointments perfect.—PARKER.

Henchell Back with Keith.

Cleveland, Jan. 27.

Herbert Henchell, well remembered from his connection with the Empire when it was under the Chase management and later with Keith, has again joined the Keith forces and is now treasurer of Keith's Prospect Street theater.—YOUNG.

THE HACKETT COMPANY HAS BEEN ORGANIZED.

The Hackett Amusement Company has been organized at St. Louis and an application was made for incorporation under the laws of Missouri, with a capital stock of $50,000. The incorporators are: Abram Frumberg, a St. Louis attorney; James K. Hackett, James R. M. Bunn, William R. Killoren, Alfred Leo Flynn and J. R. Nichoison of New York. Mr. Flynn, business manager for Mr. Hackett, stated that the company was organized to operate theaters, produce plays, etc.

Mr. Flynn said that the reorganization of Mr. Hackett's affairs had nothing to do with the recent legal trouble he had in St. Louis, when he was served with an attachment on account of claims made by a printing company.

MOVING PICTURE MAN ACTUALLY FORCED OUT.

Advertises that He Has Been Squeezed Out but that He Will Not Give Up the Battle.

Hamilton, Ohio, Jan. 25.

The moving picture business in Hamilton is just now having its exciting days. THE SHOW WORLD last week told of Lou J. Whitman dropping out of the Princess theater. C. J. Killian, who had been associated with Wittman in the Princess came out with the announcement that he had secured the interest of Dr. J. B. Scott in the Princess and that this interest had passed from Mr. Wittman to Dr. Scott some months ago. Mr. Wittman then purchased some newspaper space for his explanation of his side of the affair. In this space he said:

FORCED OUT

In a plain case of squeeze, I am temporarily out of the show business, but I expect in a few days to open the finest, safest, and most complete moving picture theater in Hamilton, 215 Court street, opposite the postoffice, showing continuously high class moving pictures and illustrated songs.

The same high standard in the management of the Princess will prevail.

I have associated with myelf in the new enterprise, known as the Star theater, Mr. J. W. Doerfler, who has been the efficient operator at the Princess for some time past.

L. J. WITTMAN.

Squawman a Hit Abroad.

Edward Milton Royle is back in this country after a six months' trip abroad. He says The Squaw Man is one of the three big hits in London.

ATTENDANCE SMALL AT CLEVELAND BENEFIT.

Cleveland, Jan. 26.

Micaglio and his Italian Band donated their services for a benefit for the Italian earthquake victims at the Opera house on Sunday, Jan. 24. The proceeds, $327, were turned over to the Cleveland branch of the Red Cross Society. As the receipts would denote, the attendance was very small, despite the fame of the Italian bandmaster and the general excellence of the program and its rendition. Estella E. Conley, vocal soloist, made her debut before the public and was well received.—YOUNG.

Mrs. Annie Yeamans, who is 73 years of age, is very ill with pneumonia in New York.

MANY FILM EXCHANGES SIGN NEW AGREEMENT

Upwards of One Hundred Rental Bureaus Already Enrolled Under the Patents Co. Banner.

The following bulletin has been issued by the Motion Picture Patents Company:

"January 22, 1909.

"To the Exhibitors of Moving Pictures:

"Motion Picture Patents Company.

"The Motion Picture Patents Company has acquired the Edison, Biograph, Armat and Vitagraph patents, which patents, we are assured by counsel, cover all modern moving picture films and all existing commercial types of projecting machines. The Patents Company has licensed the following manufacturers and importers whose present output is 18 reels per week:

"American Mutoscope & Biograph Company, Edison Manufacturing Company, Essanay Film Manufacturing Co., Kalem Company, George Kleine, Lubin Manufacturing Co., Pathe Freres, Selig Polyscope Co., Vitagraph Company of America.

"All moving picture films not manufactured or imported by the above licensees are infringements of our patents, and any exchange or theater handling such infringing films, is liable to suit for injunction and damages.

"The leading manufacturers and importers of projecting machines have also been licensed under our patents, and their machines will be sold hereafter subject to the condition that they shall be used only with licensed film. A list of the manufacturers of licensed machines will be furnished upon request.

"Licensed Exchanges.

The following exchanges have been licensed, and at the present time are the only exchanges that are authorized to handle licensed film:

Actograph Co., New York City.
Actograph Co., Troy, N. Y.
Alamo Film Exchange, Dallas, Tex.
Alamo Film Exch., San Antonio, Tex.
American Film Exchange, Pittsburg, Pa.
American Film Service, Chicago, Ill.
American Film Service, Memphis, Tenn.
American Vitagraph Co., New York.
George Breck, San Francisco, Cal.
Buffalo Film Exchange, Buffalo, N. Y.
C. A. Calehuff, Philadelphia, Pa.
Calumet Film Exchange, Chicago, Ill.
Eugene Cline & Co., Chicago, Ill.
Eugene Cline, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Clune Film Exchange, Los Angeles, Cal.
Colorado Film Exch. Co., Denver, Colo.
Columbia Film Exchange, Pittsburg, Pa.
O. T. Crawford Film Ex. Co., St. Louis, Mo.
O. T. Crawford Film Ex. Co., El Paso, Tex.
O. T. Crawford Film Ex. Co., Louisville, Ky.
O. T. Crawford Film Ex. Co., New Orleans, La.
Harry Davis, Pittsburg, Pa.
Harry Davis, Buffalo, N. Y.
Harry Davis, Philadelphia, Pa.
Denver Film Exchange, Denver, Colo.
Dixie Film Co., New Orleans, La.
Duquesne Amusement Supply Co., Pittsburg, Pa.
Duquesne Am. Sup. Co., Norfolk, Va.
Edison Display Co., Seattle, Wash.
Edison Display Co., Portland, Ore.
Electric Theater Sup. Co., Philadelphia.
Greater N. Y. Film Rental Co., N. York.
C. J. Hite Co., Chicago.
Howard Moving Pict. Co., Boston, Mass.
Imperial Film Exchange, New York.
Imperial Film Exchange, Troy, N. Y.
Imperial Film Exchange, Washington, D. C.
Imported Film & Supply Co., New Orleans, La.
Kent Film Service, Toledo, O.
Kleine Optical Co., Birmingham, Ala.
Kleine Optical Co., Boston, Mass.
Kleine Optical Co., Chicago, Ill.
Kleine Optical Co., Denver, Colo.
Kleine Optical Co., Des Moines, Ia.
Kleine Optical Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
Kleine Optical Co. of California, Los Angeles, Cal.
Kleine Optical Co., New York, N. Y.
Kleine Optical Co., Seattle, Wash.
Kleine Optical Co. of Missouri, St. Louis, Mo.
Lake Shore Film & Supply Co., Cleveland, O.
H. Lieber Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
Lubin Film Service, Philadelphia, Pa.
Lubin Film Service, Norfolk, Va.
Lubin Film Service, Cincinnati, O.
Michigan Film & Supply Co., Detroit, Mich.
Miles Bros., Inc., New York, N. Y.
Miles Bros., Inc., Boston, Mass.
Miles Bros., Inc., San Francisco, Cal.
Mitchell Film Exchange, Little Rock, Ark.
Monarch Film Exchange, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Montana Film Exchange, Butte, Mont.
Morton Film Exchange, Portland, Ore.
Mullin Film Service, Watertown, N. Y.
National Film Co., Detroit, Mich.
National Film Renting Co, Spokane, Wash.
Novelty Moving Picture Co., San Francisco, Cal.
Ohio Film Exchange, Columbus, O.
Pacific Coast Film Co., San Francisco, Cal.
Pearce & Scheck, Baltimore, Md.
Pennsylvania Film Exchange, Pittsburg, Pa.
People's Film Exchange, New York City.
Philadelphia Film Exchange, Philadelphia, Pa.
Pittsburg Calcium Light & Film Co., Pittsburg, Pa.
Pitts. Cal. Lt. & F. Co., Wilkesbarre, Pa.
Pitts. Cal. Lt. & F. Co, Rochester, N Y.
Pitts. Cal. Lt. & F. Co., Cincinnati, O.
Pitts. Cal. Lt. & F. Co., Des Moines, Ia.
Pitts. Cal. Lt. & F. Co, Lincoln, Neb.
Schiller Film Exchange, Chicago, Ill.
Southern Film Exch., Birmingham, Ala.
Southern Film Exch., Cincinnati, O.
Geo. K. Spoor & Co., Chicago, Ill.
Standard Film Exchange, Chicago.
Superior Film Supply Co., Toledo, O.
Swaab Film Service Co., Philadelphia.
Wm. H. Swanson & Co., Chicago.
Wm. H. Swanson Co. of Omaha, Omaha, Neb.
Wm. H. Swanson St. Louis Film Co., St. Louis, Mo.
The Talking Mach. Co., Rochester, N. Y.
Tally's Film Exchange, Los Angeles, Cal.
Theater Film Supp. Co., Charlotte, N. C.
Theater Fil. Sup. Co., Birmingham, Ala.
Theater Film Service Co., Chicago.
Theater Film Service Co., San Francisco, Cal.
Trent & Wilson, Salt Lake City, Utah.
20th Century Optiscope Co., Chicago.
20th Century Optiscope Co., Kansas City, Kan.
20th Century Optiscope Co., Ogden, Utah.
Turner & Dahnken, San Francisco, Cal.
Twin City Calcium & Stereopticon Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
United Film Exchange, Cleveland, O.
U. S. Film Exchange, Chicago, Ill.
Vaudette Film Exchange Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.
P. L. Waters, New York City.
Alfred Weiss' Film Exch., New York.
Western Film Exch., St. Louis, Mo.
Western Film Exch., Milwaukee, Wis.
Western Film Exch., Joplin, Mo.
Wonderland Film Exch., Pittsburg, Pa.
Wheelan-Loper Film Co., Dallas, Tex.
Yale Film Renting Co., Kansas City, Mo.

"The Patents Company has by its licenses to the most important manufacturers of moving picture films and machines in the world, and to the leading rental exchanges, provided, for such exhibitors as become its licensees, the highest class of service with the largest and best selection of subjects, and in addition has made provision for the elimination of worn-out and objectionable film.

"Applications from Exhibitors. . . . .

"For Theaters Now Open.

"Every exhibitor now in business may apply on the enclosed blank before Feb. 1, 1909, for a license. It is the policy of this company to be liberal in issuing these licenses, but for the good of the business and to conserve the interests of the better class of the exhibitors, it may be necessary to refuse some applications.

"For New Theaters.

"The Patents Company will protect theaters already established as far as may be possible, and it will issue licenses to only such new places of exhibition as obtain the approval of the Patents Company before they are established. The Patents Company will approve only such locations as in its opinion will support new houses and meet a public demand.

"Terms of License.

"The license of the Patents Company to exhibitors covers the theater, or place of exhibition, and is issued on the following terms:

"(1) At the place licensed, only motion pictures may be used which are manufactured or imported by the licensees of the Patents Company and rented from a licensed exchange.

"(2) The exhibitor shall pay a weekly royalty to be determined by the Patents Company, graded according to the relative business of each of the licensed theaters. For the period from February 1 to March 8, 1909, this royalty shall be $10 ($2 per week), which sum must accompany each application. Should a license be refused, the fee accompanying the application will be returned.

"(3) The license shall be at all times prominently displayed in the place of exhibition of the licensee and together with the machines used, be always open to inspection by the Patents Company.

"In order that the theaters may be fully assured that the Patents Company has no desire to act arbitrarily or oppressively, it should be stated that the royalty to be collected after March 8, 1909, from the average exhibitor will be as nearly as practicable $2 per week, and that in the case of the smallest theaters, the royalty will be less. We feel confident that the royalties paid by exhibitors will be insignificant in comparison with the increase in their business, which will result from the co-operation of the various licensees of this company.

"Projecting Machines.

"The exhibitor's license covers all machines purchased before Feb. 1, 1909, which the exhibitor uses in the place licensed. The exhibitor may not use any machine purchased after Feb. 1, 1909, unless the official license plate of the Patents Company is attached to the head of the machine.

"Motion Picture Patents Company,
10 Fifth Avenue, New York.

In addition to the exchanges above listed, several others have signed the agreement, including the Laemmle Film Service, which were received too late by the Motion Picture Patents Co. to be incorporated in this list.

THE FILM THEATERS NOT FELT VERY MUCH

Martin Beck Says Moving Picture Houses Are Not Cutting in on Vaudeville Business to Great Extent.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 23.

Martin J. Beck, P. J. Casey, the booking agent, and Mark A. Luescher, the Orpheum superintendent of publicity, stopped off here for a few hours last Thursday on their way to the coast. They are making a thorough tour of inspection of Orpheum properties in the west and south. Though Mr. Luescher announced that the management of the big vaudeville circuit was satisfied with the volume of business its houses are doing, and does not think the film theaters are cutting in to any extent, Mr. Beck expects shortly after his return to New York to open the new film making plant, and says that he plans to take views of each town in which an Orpheum playhouse is located and send each film around the entire circuit. Mr. Beck received a telegram from New York Thursday, repeating a cablegram from Berlin saying tha his negotiations were about closed in the German capital for the establishment of an American style music hall, the first of the sort. Mr. Beck and party left Thursday evening for the coast.—BILLINGS.

AN ARTIST CANCELLED SUES HOUSE MANAGER.

Caroline Pullman Gets a Lawyer When Closed at Burlington, Ia., Recently.

Burlington, Ia., Jan. 23.

Caroline Pullman, a vaudeville performer, filed suit in Squire Huneke's court Tuesday, the 19th, against Manager Jack Root of the Garrick theater, claiming $35 salary for one week's services. Miss Pullman made her first appearance at the Garrick on Monday afternoon, the 18th. Manager Root sat in the audience and decided that the young woman would not fill the bill. Following the performance Mr. Root informed Miss Pullman that her act did not go, but Miss Pullman balked at a cancellation of her contract, her determination finally resulting in the suit filed by her attorney, H. J. Wilson.

The contract between Manager Root and the performer stipulated that it might be cancelled without notice for incompetency, drunkenness, failure to appear and several other reasons. The manager is bound by a clause to pay the performer one-seventh of the week's salary, after the first appearance and before the second performance. Manager Root tendered this to Miss Pullman, but she refused to accept it. The case was settled finally before coming to trial, Manager Root paying one-seventh of the week's salary and all costs of the suit.—BONIFIELD.

Benefit Netted $2,100.

San Francisco, Jan. 25.

The benefit given by the Theatrical Managers for the Italian sufferers at the Van Ness theater netted about $2,100. All the theaters participated.—WILSON.

A WHITE RAT'S OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

D. J. Grauman Says He Will Represent the District West of Omaha for Vaudeville Order.

San Francisco, Jan. 21.

D. J. Grauman will represent the White Rats in this city and in all the territory this side of Omaha, where his reign and supervision commences. This portion of the circuit covers everything from this coast to Missouri, from Canada to the Gulf. Mr. Grauman expects to go east in about thirty days to perfect the arrangements and upon his return will open an office in this city and start the wheels going.

Thus far all preparations for the opening of the Frisco office have been carried on in great secrecy, but some of the facts leaked out at a banquet held here recently.

Mr. Graumann states that he has a twenty year contract and will do everything in his power to promote the interest of the White Rats in the territory allotted to him.—WILSON.

Robbed in Chicago.

Faribault, Minn., Jan. 26.

Charles Frosto (Olson), whose home is in this city, was held up and robbed in Chicago about two weeks ago. Mr. Frosto is now at the St. Luke's hospital in Chicago, and although seriously hurt is on the road to recovery.—CAMPBELL.

Attractions Improved.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 25.

Sullivan & Considine are improving the quality of attractions at the Family, with the result that business is constantly increasing.—BILLINGS.

VAUDEVILLE VIEWS

William G. Primeau was arrested at Davenport, Iowa, Jan. 16 on the charge of bigamy.

Bird Millman, the eighteen-year-old wire walker with the Millman Trio, sprained her ankle at St. Paul recently.

The Australian Tree Fellers are credited with a big hit at the Orpheum in St. Paul last week.

Nella Bergen will begin her vaudeville tour at Poli's in New Haven next Monday night.

Billy Beard, formerly principal comedian of George Primrose's Minstrels, is now in vaudeville and sends a card from Columbia, S. C.

Barry Scanon has severed his connection with the Bijou Dream at Kalamazoo, Mich., and Harry Grull is now the manager.

John H. W. Byrne, who is "not a liar, just a story teller," is at the Majestic at Charleston, S. C., this week and goes to the Orpheum at Savannah, Ga., next week.

John C. Rice and Sally Cohen, Ezra Kendall and Joe Welsh have recently gone over the Morris circuit. Mr. Kendall is said to have requested the Morris press bureau to be careful in the selection of adjectives to describe him.

The vaudeville performers billed to appear at Pantages theater in Sacramento, Cal., last week were delayed until Monday by the floods and Manager Ely had to arrange a moving picture show for Sunday on short notice.

Robert Rogers and Louise Macintosh have a new sketch, The Green Mouse, which is without an oath, without a double meaning joke, without quarreing, without mistaken identity and with no mother-in-law in it.

George W. Englebraith, the Cincinnati park and theater manager, has returned from an extensive trip looking over the western and northern vaudeville circuits. He reports improved business in many sections.

Emma Salvatore is winning some very flattering notices for her excellent work in vaudeville in support of her husband, Thomas Reynolds. Miss Salvatore has recently been admitted to membership in the Actors' Society.

Though Percy G. Williams declined to comment on the subject, a realty transfer in Brooklyn indicates a further extension of his circuit. He has bought a plot of land which would make an ideal location for a theater.

Bradlee Martin, in his sketch, Jessie, Jack and Jerry, encountered two blizzards in Portland, Maine—one of the weather and another of approval. Mr. Martin is preparing a new one-act play, in which he is to appear as a German Jew of the Ghetto.

Harry Lauder opens at the Lincoln Square theater in New York next Monday night and will remain at that house until Feb. 19, sailing for London Feb. 20. He does not plan a return to this country, but it is almost certain that offers will be made him which will be so tempting that he will come again.

The Thompson Sisters, who were with the Arthur Deming act, The Wild and Wooly West, when it was given a trial performance recently at the Olympic, in Chicago, have decided to go out as a team instead of waiting for that act to open. They will be at the Family in Davenport the first half of next week and at the Family in Rock Island the latter half of the week.

The Zancigs who are doing a telephathic act offer $1,000 reward to any agent, manager or anyone concerned who will produce two persons that will do the same act under similar conditions. They claim that neither confederates nor mechanism is used and that they can transmit 200 messages in 18 minutes, under a forfeit of $100. The Zancigs have been tested by leading members of the Society of Psychological Research.

Mme. Reno and her company are in Texas and write that business is splendid. The roster: Mme. Reno, Express of Magic, Herrman & Reno, boxers and dancers; Mlle. Auline, rolling globe artist; La Petite Ruth, song and dance; Art Humeston, musical moke and impersonator; Third Rail Ed, the electrical wonder, and Billy Reate, flexible equilibrist. Arthur Herrman is business manager of the company.

REPERTOIRE NOTES

Deline Hicks has joined the Neill stock company for a tour through Canada.

The Wininger Brothers company played to $1,300 on the week Jan. 18-23 at Muscatine, Iowa.

The Grace Hayward company had a good week at Vincennes, Ind., Jan. 18-23.

The Partelle stock company was the first repertoire show to play to a capacity audience at the matinee at the Academy in Kalamazoo this season.

The North Brothers, comedians, are at Eau Claire, Wis., this week. The show goes to Chippewa Falls, Wis., week of Jan. 31-Feb. 6.

Kirke Brown and his repertoire company is at the State Street theater in Trenton, N. J., this week. Mr. Brown formerly headed the Trent Stock company at that city.

The Wight Theater company, Hilliard Wight, manager, touring Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas, is now in its 32nd week and business is reported good. A scenic production of every play is given, according to Mr. Wight, who says he hustles all day long to get business.

The Depew-Burdette company disbanded at Huntsville, Ala., owing to the illness of Mrs. Depew, wife of the manager, who is known on the stage as Miss Fannie Depew. She remained in Huntsville for treatment but the members of the company came to Chicago and Cincinnati.

J. Harvey Orr thinks people will go to a "rep" show if the manager delivers the goods. His company, the Harvey stock, played to a big week at Sheboygan last week; in fact on Saturday night it was out of the question to accommodate those who sought admission. Every seat was occupied and ten chairs and 43 standing room tickets sold.

Donahue's players have made the Broadway theater's stage at Butte, Mont., a busy workshop for the past two weeks with rehearsals. The "boy manager" is to take out a repertoire company for Dick P. Sutton, which will consist of a reorganized road company augmented by importations from Frisco, including Charles C. Lowe and Phyllis Barrington. The company opened this week at Butte and will make an extended tour of Montana and the northwest.

BROKE HOUSE RECORD TWICE IN TWO WEEKS.

Goshen, Ind., Jan. 26.

Richard Carle in Mary's Lamb came to the Jefferson January 22 and following closely upon Three Twins, broke the high water mark for big receipts established by the Joseph M. Gaites show just two weeks before. The theater was entirely sold out for Carle and the police stopped the selling of tickets on all floors, not permitting standing room. Despite the fact that Comedian Carle was very hoarse with a cold and suffered with a sprained ankle, he received during his Cincinnati engagement, he quickly caught the big crowd and merriment prevailed throughout the evening. The shadowgraph feature of the Carle show and the brevity of chorus costumes, together with the generally risque atmosphere of Mary's Lamb shocked a hit.—F.

CHILDREN CANNOT SEE PICTURES WHEN ALONE

New York Magistrate Holds That Law Regarding Theater Visiting Age Holds Good and Theatorium Man Pays $500 for the Information.

New York, Jan. 25.

If the judgment of Magistrate Breen is correct, the theatorium managers of this city will have to sacrifice considerable of their profits. One, Jasparo Dottoro, who runs a theatorium at 235 Avenue A, was fined five hundred dollars for admitting children "under age" to his moving picture house. Dotorro was arrested by an agent of the Children's Society and was charged with violating section 290 of the penal code, prohibiting any person from admitting to "a dance hall, concert saloon, theater, museum, skating rink or any place of entertainment injurious to health or morals" children under the age of sixteen years, unless accompanied by their parents or guardians.

After reciting the evidence and quoting from the statute at length, Magistrate Breen held Dottoro in $500 bail for trial. The magistrate said:

"The plain object of the statute in requiring the accompaniment of parents or guardians was to safeguard the health and morals of the children. By its provisions no child under the prescribed age could enter a theater or museum, no matter how moral the performance, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. Would it not be illegal to hold that moving picture shows, with their objectionable and dangerous surroundings in many instances, should be exempt from the operation of a statute that has for its purpose the protection of children from the evils which the legislature had in mind, merely because they are not specifically mentioned?"

James Nugent, counsel for Dottoro, had contended that it was esential to prove that the character of the pictures shown was objectionable. Magistrate Breen holds that, notwithstanding the statute on which the charge against Dottoro is based was passed prior to the advent of the moving picture shows as now conducted, it applied with equal force as to dance halls, theaters, etc.

Lawyer Murphy, of the legal bureau of the Police department, was in court and urged that Dottoro be held for trial.

THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN CLOSES TO REORGANIZE.

Oliver Labadie and Helen White Refused to Stand Cut In Salary and are in Chicago.

The County Chairman, under the management of Marx S. Nathan, closed at Parsons, Kan., Jan. 19, for reorganization. The plan is to tour Oklahoma and the southwest.

The reorganization is with the aim of getting the salary list down to a point where the manager has a chance to make some money. It is claimed that the management asked everyone to stand a cut of twenty per cent and that the most of them took their medicine gracefully.

Oliver Labadie, who played Frisco and managed the stage, and Helen White, who played the milliner, were among those who refused to accept a cut in salary. They are now at the Saratoga hotel in Chicago. It is said that Miss White was the best milliner who has ever been seen in the character.

GAMES OF GRAFT.

THE SHOW WORLD Invites All Members of the Profession of Entertainment to Contribute to This Column—An Accepted Article Entitles the Writer to a Six Months' Subscription to THE SHOW WORLD and Permanent Membership in

THE SOCIETY OF THE STUNG.

Game Number Nineteen.

There are many games in which theatrical men are the victims of their designing brothers, but this is a game in which the theatrical manager is knowingly victimized, with or without his consent. This may be played by any politician who has a "pull" with the police or fire department. He either writes for or calls in person for a "pair of seats," (perhaps a dozen, if he is so inclined). The manager refuses to "recognize" the request. The politician informs the manager at the time of the "turn down" that Bill Smith, chief of the fire department is a pal of his, and that "Bill" will "hand" the manager "something for this." And then may follow a dozen or more different methods of harrassing the manager, known only to the initiated. Inspection of his house by the fireman, detailed at each performance, is likely to develop infringements of the fire laws in the most unexpected places. A burnt match found in an aisle of the auditorium may be held over the manager's head like a big stick, until in sheer desperation, the manager may invite the politician to entertain himself and friends at a box party, any night most suitable to him. It is almost impossible for managers to break up this game of graft and the victim is deserving of sympathy rather than election to permanent membership in this society.—L. L. M.

AGENTS AND MANAGERS

Thomas D. Davis is in advance of The Witching Hour.

Frank C. Payne is ill with pneumonia in New York.

Dwight Pepple succeeded Wallace Sackett in advance of The Straight Road.

Harry Bryan, who has been in advance of The Revelation, arrived in the city last Monday.

Richard Ross, advance representative of The Power of Truth, is in town this week. It is understood that the company will lay off next week.

Eddie Cook has reason to be swelled a little after the picture of himself which appeared in a western paper, a copy of which now adorns the office of George Kingsbury in the Chicago opera house.

Frederick Swartz, business manager for Thurston, Kellar's successor, was in Chicago this week and reports a highly successful tour for his organization. Thurston is booked for a three weeks' stay at the Great Northern in February.

Sherman Danby, who has been connected with various attractions, being story man with the Carl Hagenbeck circus one year and press representative of Wilton Lackaye when he appeared in The Bondman, is in Chicago, having closed the company in The Bishop, of which he was manager. When it comes to originality as a press agent, it is doubtful if Danby has many equals.

Gay Musician Broke Records.

St. Thomas, Ont., Jan. 26.

The Gay Musician, presented Jan. 19, set a new record for financial returns as far as the Grand Opera house is concerned. The record was formerly held by The Gingerbread Man,, which was presented last year, but The Gay Musician eclipsed the receipts of that performance by about $100.

Great Northern Injunction Denied.

New York, Jan. 20.

Judge Girard has denied the Great Northern Film Company, represented by Ingvald C. Oes, Mgr., the right of permanent injunction against the American Mutoscope and Biograph Company of America. The suit for damages will be continued.

MAYOR CANNOT GRANT THEATORIUM LICENSES.

Cincinnati, Jan. 25.

Superior Judge Shattuck Saturday decided the mayor has no power to grant or refuse moving picture show licenses. The decision was in the case of Lynn B. Bowman, who brought an injunction against the city to restrain its officials from arresting him for running a nickel theater at Alms place, Walnut Hills, without a license. He said Mayor Markbreit had refused him license because of the objections of residents in the neighborhood. Judge Shattuck ruled the act giving the mayor the right to pass on licenses is illegal. Bowman will ask the auditor for a license and if this is refused, will mandamus him.—RUNEY.

Teck Narrowly Averts Damage.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 25.

The building in which the Teck theater is located was damaged by fire Sunday, but the theater escaped unharmed. Manager Oishel is giving regular performances this week.—McGUIRE.

NEW THEATERS AND NEW CORPORATIONS

NEW THEATERS.

New York.

Niagara Falls.—Ground for the new vaudeville house to be erected by Harris Lamberg, manager and lessee of the International theater, and Augustus C. Porter, at 36 Falls street, was broken Monday. Braas Bros., contractors, will build the house which they guarantee to have ready in 40 working days. The theater will be a model of its kind. It will cost $30,000 and will seat 700 persons comfortably. John Allen of Buffalo, who has decorated most of the theaters in that city, will do the stucco work. The exterior appearance of the house will be very handsome.

Pennsylvania.

Scranton.—The old Star theater on Linden street opened Monday, January 25, by the new managers, Smith & May. One of the managers in speaking of the opening of the house said:

"The house is completely renovated and may rank as a new theater. The house is for men only and smoking is permitted. It is not affiliated with any circuit.

Iowa.

Iowa City. A new opera house to cost $75,000 is to be erected by a newly formed company, which has taken options on several good sites.

Ohio.

Portsmouth. Gus Gun, the vaudeville magnate, was a business visitor here today. When asked this afternoon about a new theater for Portsmouth he stated a house woud be built in the spring without a doubt. It was rumored with much persistency that Mr. Sun was after the location on West Second street where the Portsmouth Cycling Club was formerly located.

New Mexico.

Santa Fe.—The Santa Fe lodge of Elks is building an up-to-date opera house, which will be completed about June 1, 1909. The house will be strictly modern, having a stage fifty feet wide by twenty-eight feet deep, with proscenium opening of twenty-eight feet. Seating capacity will be about 50, and it will be one of the most modern theaters in the West. A. J. Fisher will be the manager.

Colorado.

Colorado Springs.—James F. Burns, the well known mining man, has plans ready for construction of a $200,000 opera house, office and store building, combined, on his property in the business center embracing a site 120x180 feet. The building will be three stories high and ornate in design.

Oklahoma.

Oklahoma City.—The new Metropolitan theater which is being erected by Ellsworth & Jordan of New York City will be opened February 1. The new playhouse is the prettiest in the city and represents an expenditure of nearly $100,000.

The building embodies the very latest fads and fancies in theater construction, including a fireproofing that is so perfect that Manager Jordan has considered it unnecessary to insure the structure. The building will not only be substantial but outwardly attractive as well.

Stock will be played wholly and the selection of the company will be in the hands of Mark Ellsworth, one of the owners and managers.—EVANS A. NASH.

Texas.

Bay City.—A new ground floor house has just opened here.

Lufkin.—The new opera house was opened here by the Emery Musical Comedy company.

NEW CORPORATIONS

Georgia.

Atlanta.—The Kahn Theatrical Circuit, capitalized at $25,000 with the privilege of increasing to $200,000, was chartered by the Superior Court of Fulton county. The stockholders elected Ben Kahn as general manager while W. O. Mashburn, Jake Hirsch and J. F. Lynch were made directors. The purposes of the company is to operate a chain of theaters, form theatrical companies and establish theater circuits.

West Virginia.

Wheeling.—The Motion Picture Service Company has been incorporated with $1,000 capital. The incorporators are Luther T. Pollard, Nathan W. Rubel, Simon L. Rubel and others.

Wisconsin.

Milwaukee.—The Wisconsin Amusement Company has been incorporated with a capital of $2,500. W. S. Griswold, C. F. Henrizi and J. W. Cannon are named as the incorporators.

Madison.—The National Amusement Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of $50,000. The incorporators are S. R. Simon, Fred A. Landeck, and Harry Harris.

New York.

Albany.—John King and John Fluhrer, of Middle Village, and Edward Schlatter and Clara Schlatter, of Brooklyn, are directors of the King Amusement company, of New York City, just incorporated with the Secretary of State, with a capital of $10,000.

New York.—R. E. Taylor & company have been incorporated for the purpose of manufacturing moving picture machines, etc. The capital stock is $50,000. The incorporators are Elmer E. Earnshaw, 1240 Broadway, N. Y.; Roy E. Taylor, 941 Simpson street; The Bronx, and others.

Illinois.

Chicago.—The Mutual Amusement Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of $10,000. The incorporators are William G. Yost, H. Reichardt and E. Schulze.

Chicago.—The Calumet Film Exchange has been incorporated with a capital stock of $21,000. The incorporators are H. Heinemann, Kohn A. Verhoeven and George Hoke.

New Jersey.

Camden.—Globe Theatrical company, Inc,, capital $25,000; incorporators, V. A. Murray, Archworth Martin and Doering Bellinger.

Oklahoma.

Oklahoma City.—The Monarch Film Exchange has been incorporated with a capital stock of $20,000. The incorporators are C. V. Strubhle, Harry Burgess, George W. Bennett and others.

Delaware.

Wilmington.—The International Film Manufacturing Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of $10,000. The incorporators are Orrin B. Faussett, and Isaac Krihel, of Philadelphia, William C. Popp, of Wilmington.

GAYLOR IN CHARGE OF WHITE RATS OFFICE.

Last Week's Meeting was Largely Attended and Finances are in Splendid Condition.

Last week's meeting of the White Rats was largely attended and Bobby Gaylor, the newly appointed Chicago representative, stated Monday that everything was runing in nice order and that the financial returns since he took charge were particularly encouraging.

Harry Mountford, who was in Chicago for ten days on business connected with the White Rats left for New York Jan. 21.

Edwin Keough and company appear at the Star and Garter next week as an extra attraction and have four weeks with Hyde & Behman, going to Pittsburg and then to New York. The announcement that the act would be a feature of the White Rat show at Denver next week was premature.

Gus Lavender, formerly of Lavender & Thompson, who has been nicknamed "Poll" by his White Rat friends, is in town and is sporting a new overcoat.

Maximillian has just returned from Hot Springs and is now in the pink of condition. He and George Lavender are said to be preparing a double specialty which will be a hummer

Arthur Berveis came in Monday from a hunt near his home at Fargo, N. D. On his return he played a few weeks of Sullivan & Considine time. Bervies looks fine after his stay in the northwest and was given a hearty reception in the White Rat office last Monday.

The death of Harry Conlin appears in another place.

On March 3 the White Rats of Chicago will hold their first annual ball at the Sherman house and it will be conducted in the same way that the one was in New York. The actors and actresses appearing in the city that week will attend in the costumes used on the stage.

The first White Rat company sent out from Chicago opened last Sunday night at the Curtis in Denver and reports received by F. M. Barnes are to the effect that the husines was good and the show pleasing.

The second White Rat comnany to be organized here will leave for Denver and open at the Curtis Jan. 31. The Pendletons, Cluxton Richmond & Co., Three Sensational Olivers, Robinson & Grant and Mabel Cassiday make up the bill. The show for the week of Feb. 7 will include: William J. McDermott, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, Douglas & Douglas, Bowman & St. Claire, and the George Dandy Duo.

OLYMPIC

Comedy predominates in the Olymnic bill this week. There are four acts which can best be described as nonsensical, two acts which are musical, one being a banjo act and the other a singer. The latter sings negro songs which are not devoid of comedy.

A visit to the Olymnic this week means a long laugh. You will laugh at the extraordinary juggling feats of Pollard and at the comedy he so cleverly interpolates. It is seldom that one sees the feats equalled which he accomplishes with ease. The act is never tiresome and always entertaining. You will be amused at the banjo playing of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clarke. They nerform on these instruments to the satisfaction of music lovers and to the surprise of those who have never seen the others in the same line. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke do not suffer from a comparison with other artists, however.

You will laugh until your sides ache at big fat and joliv Tom Welch and at the baseball game in which Sig Mealy and Ed Montrose assist. You may be surprised, if you are in the habit of seeing vaudeville acts, to catch an acrobatic act in 'one' but it is presented there and the artists do not appear to be cramped for room. You will like Elizabeth Murray, who sings Irish and Negro dialect songs in her own inimitable way. You will laugh and applaud, and enjoy every number she renders if you are human, and sound in mind and body.

But the quintessence of your delight will be reached when the Four Rianos come on, but as they recently appeared at another theater the act will not be reviewed here. You will wonder where the comedy is to come from when Fred Warren and Al Blanchard come on the stage and will look again at your nrogram to see that you read the line aright, "comedians who can comede." True one of them is in blackface but he does not look funny while the other one looks as serious as Irving Lee when called to play a part on short notice. But they do comede when they get started and before their act is half over you are laughing at and with them.

The atterpiece, Frenzied Frolics, also provides much comedy. You miss the opportunities which Lew Sully should have been more liberal in providing Kathryn Rowe Palmer, you may find it hard to laugh at Gus Weinburg, but you will do it for the nreceding acts have nut you in the laughing humor. All in all, the skit will please you and as you leave the nlayhouse you are apt to nudge your friend in the side and remark that you had a good laugh.—E. E. M.

Joe Tinker is to be starred in The Home Run, by Joe Pilgrim, and the company will onen at Racine, Wis., Feb. 7. It will later be seen in the melo-dramatic houses of Chicago.

CHICAGO NOTES

The Cowboy and the Squaw will be seen at the Academy next week.

The Renegade will be produced at the Studebaker next Sunday evening.

Lillian Russell will follow The Girls of Gottenburg at the Illinois, opening Feb. 14 in Wildfire.

Col. W. H. Johnson, manager of the Colonial of Kalamazoo, Mich., was in Chicago last week.

The Studebaker theater sends out mimeographed press work occasionally which it is impossible to read.

William Farnum comes to the Studebaker next Sunday in The Renegade by Paul Armstrong.

Francis E. Reid is in the city in advance of John Drew, who opens at Powers Feb. 1 in Jack Straw.

Philip Sohlke, son of Gus Sohlke, was brought to Chicago this week from Racine college, suffering from appendicitis. The young man will undergo an operation.

Joseph King's East Lynne will be the attraction at the Columbus theater the week of Jan. 31 and Lena Rivers comes to that house week of Feb. 6.

The Prince of Swindlers, in four acts and nineteen scenes, under the management of A. H. Woods comes to the Bijou next week.

JOHN DREW
in Jack Straw at Powers, next week.

Richard Carle came in from the one night stands and witnessed The Girls of Gottenburg at the Illinois last Sunday night.

Several members of The Fair Coed, The Strong People, and The Golden Butterfly companies saw The Girls of Gottenberg at the Illinois last Sunday night.

Aaron J. Jones, accompanied by Mrs. Jones, will sail for Europe shortly and they will spend two months in Paris, Berlin, London and at Monte Carlo.

The Newly Weds and Their Baby did $116 more last Sunday than the show did at the opening performances at the Auditorium Jan. 17.

Gus Sohlke, general stage director of the Whitney forces, is still with A Broken Idol and it is said he is due for a prolonged stay with this, his latest production.

The scenery used by the Soul Kiss company was censored recently and the United States government took a hand, ordering the "money scene" taken off of the scenery.

Hannah Cohen and Mollie Levey, who left School Days when it was at the Great Northern, have been in the city since that time. They are preparing to open in a vaudeville act.

Goldie Huff, Ethel Levey and Bertha Trilling, who left Gus Edwards' School Days at Pittsburg recently, are now in Chicago and were callers at this office last Monday. The young ladies have secured a vaudeville engagement.

Messenger Boy 42, which has appeared in Chicago on several different occasions this season, will be the offering at the Alhambra next week. It is Never too Late to Mend is underlined for week of Feb. 6.

There is no talk of a new production for the Whitney and from the crowds that gather at that cosy little playhouse none will be needed until A Broken Idol is called away owing to a previous engagement at Boston.

Walker Whiteside is completing his eleventh week in Chicago. He was at the Grand three weeks and this makes his eighth week at the Chicago Opera house. There are no signs as yet of the end of the run and George Kingsbury thinks the chances are good to duplicate the success of The Man of the Hour.

The bill at the Columbia this week includes: H. V. Fitzgerald, impersonator; Florence Staniey & Co., sketch; Samuels & Chester, Italian impersonators; Leoni & Leoni, aerial performers; Marion Gilbey, vocalist; The Dalvins, Oriental jugglers, and Walter Fleming, crayon artist.

James S. Hutton has returned from Norfolk and Richmond, Va., having concluded his engagement with Marchesi, the great Italian singer, and will take up his duties as director of publicity of Riverview park again. It is interesting to note that he is the first man ever invited to fili that position two consecutive seasons at Riverview.

One of the most succesful engagements ever credited to a Chicago theater will come to a close on Saturday evening when Elsie Janis and her company board a special train for New York, where The Fair Co-Ed will be given its first eastern presentation on Monday evening at the Knickerbocker theater. The long run just ending places the Studebaker on an enviable footing among Chicago theaters, and in the matter of capacity crowds. Miss Janis and her entertaining college play have touched the highest record and overstepped the widely heralded crowd-drawing offerings of previous seasons.

AMERICAN.

The American Music Hall was crowded at eight o'clock Monday night by a fashionably dresed audience to witness a bill which did not prove to be overwhelmingly meritorious. Indeed, those who arrived at the opening hour rather felt that their coming might profitably have been delayed forty-five minutes. There was nothing remarkably new or novel in the horizontal bar work of the Fortune Brothers and the comedy was not decidedly comical, to judge by the reception accorded the act. Geo. Wilson spoiled some of his own best black face humor by substituting his laughter for that of the audience. His jokes were rather risque, and a certain portion of the natrons enjoyed them on that account. His song was inclined to spoil the good effect of his monologue work.

Manuel Romaine & company furnished an act of singing and dancing with a lot of ineffectual dialogue thrown in for extra measure. The audience liked the songs and some of the dancing, but the dialogue failed to appeal and the acting was voted amateurish.

Willie Hoppe provided the first really bright snot on the bill. His work at the billiard table brought forth great applause even from those who had never played the game, but who could not fail to appreciate the cleverness of Hoppe's cue. The interlocutor with the act was not always convincing but the work of Hoppe was overwhelmingly brilliant.

Incognito, who was not down on the printed nrogram, because of her retention at the last moment, repeated her hit of last week.

William Courtleigh and comnany proved a heavy weight number, making up for any shortcomings in the bill previous to its appearance and outweighing in many respects all other numbers combined.

After the intermission Felix and Caire made a wonderful hit, being forced to entirely exhaust their repertoire of clever imitations. It would appear that these talented actors might be retained indefinately in Chicago, such great favorites have they become within the past fortnight under the Morris hanner.

Maude O'Dell and company followed. Maude needs neither the comnany nor the absolutely honeless sketch to furnish an anology for the exnosition of a form so divinely nerfect as her own. It was very evident that the audience wanted to see more of her and less of her company. The skit neither adds to her charm nor does it emphasize her figure by its contrast in harmonious lines.

Emma Carus was retained for a second week and proved her own true self, an ideal entertainer.

The Apache Dance was also retained and provided an excellent closing number.

Taken as a whole the bill was highly satisfactory since it left a good impression upon the departing audience—rather a trick of managerial arrangement than the influence of consecutively talented numbers.—W. M.

LEAN AND HOLBROOK TO GO IN VAUDEVILLE.

A Girl at the Helm Closes at La Salle Next Sunday Night and The Golden Girl Comes Feg. 15.

The run of The Girl at the Helm at the La Salle will come to an end next Sunday night and the theater will be dark until The Golden Girl opens there Feb. 15. This new musical play will be produced in Milwaukee Feb. 7.

Cecil Lean and Florence Holbrook will not be members of the cast of The Golden Girl. They will enter vaudeville, making their first appearance at the Majestic.

The cast of The Golden Girl will include Harry Tighe, Winona Winter, Harold Crane, Helen Cullinan, James H. Bradbury, Hamilton Coleman, William Robinson, Joseph Herbert, Jr., Johnny Fogarty, Zeke Colvin and George McCarthy. The only important member of the present company who will be in the new cast is James H. Bradley. Those at whose departure the faithful patrons must weep are Cecil Lean, Florence Holbrook, Lee Kohlmar, Carolyn Lilja and Eleanor Kent.

Joe Palmer Ill.

Joe Palmer, a well known vaudeville and burlesque actor is ill with locomotor ataxia at 4326 Prairie avenue, this city. As soon as his friends heard of his predicament, great sympathy for him was expresed. Geo. P. Murphy, German comedian with the Newly Weds and Their Baby, now playing a three weeks' engagement at the Auditorium, however was the first to offer a practical suggestion. Mr. Murphy not only started a subscription fund, which already amounts to a neat sum, but he pronosed a benefit for the stricken actor and plans to that end are now ranidly progressing. Friends of Palmer who desire to reach him should address him as per street and number above mentioned. Actors now in Chicago who wish to donate their services at the benefit may address Mr. Murphy in care of the Auditorium or THE SHOW WORLD.

950 POUNDS OF EXCESS AT $9.80 PER HUNDRED

Kid Gabriel, formerly with the Buffalo Bill Wild West, is now in vaudeville with a posing act, in which three persons are employed. He has been in Chicago sometime, but left Monday morning for Spokane, Wash., where the act opens an eight weeks' engagement on the Pantages time. The long jumn to onen on this time is not unusual, although it is very costly in this instance. The ticket for each nerson with the Gabriel act cost $[illegible] and he had 950 pounds of excess baggage which was charged at the rate of $9.80 hundred. Gabriel's act is a new one. It was given a tryout at the Haymarket in Chicago where he says it went "big."

ILLINOIS

If there were only some one thing about The Girls of Gottenberg to stand out distinctly in memory folks would leave the theater claiming it was the best musical comedy witnessed in a long time. As it is the man who isn't satisfied with the George Edwardes' production as Americanized by Charles Frohman is past hope he has seen so many shows that he is not in the humor to be nleased no matter what the manager might offer.

The London company, with several American girls to imnrove the cast, opened a three weeks' engagement at the Illinois theater last Sunday night and notwithstanding the fact that Will J. Davis does not advertise his theater in the Chicago Examiner the house was crowded.

There were three scenes in the production. Two scenes make up the opening act although the first one is rather an introduction to the nlay for there is really a plot and it is based upon a play presented in Germany.

The leading comedy role is in the hands of James Blakely, an English comedian. He is a barber with a fondness for adventure, and representing himself as an envoy of the Kaiser, he removes a regiment of soldiers to Gottenberg when the military denartment has meant to retain them at Rottenberg. He engages himself to the burgomaster's daughter who arriving at Gottenberg to nrepare for the coming of the soldiers and to him and Louise Dresser, who has the role of the burgomaster's daughter, is left the best parts of the comedy.

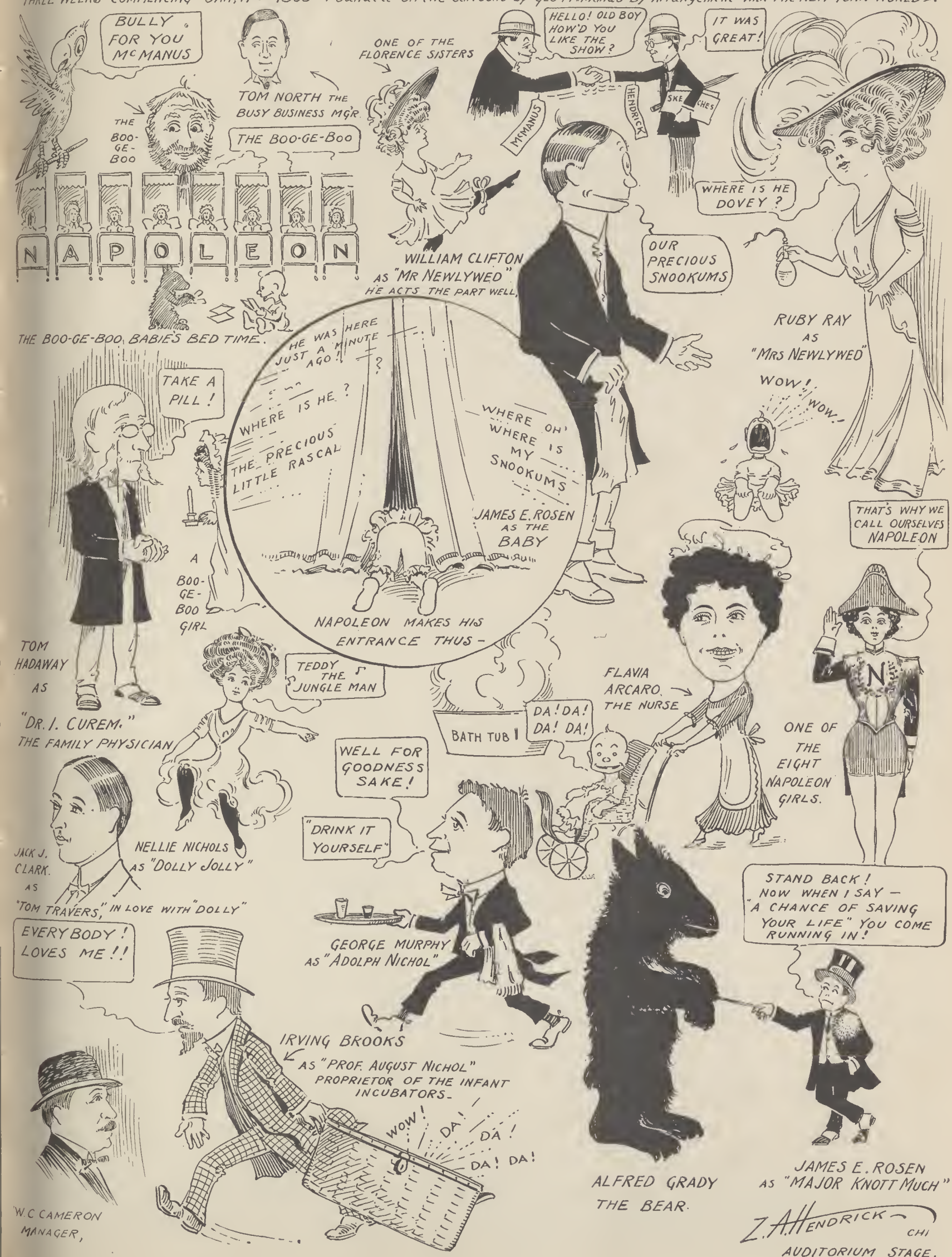
May Naudain, who has the role of the general's daughter, seemed to be the favorite among the women with Sunday night's audience although one of Louise Dresser's songs was applauded so enthusiastically from the gallery that she had to confess that she had sung all of it that she knew. Aimee Angeles has the role originally played by Gertie Millar in New York and pleased with her dancing. She did not give the nart the nrominence it would seem to deserve from the fact that Miss Millar was featured.

There is a male chorus of four voices which should make the musical director as proud as can be. A male chorus is always enjoyed but this one is exceptionally good and when May Naudain sang with an accompaniment by these soldier boys she fairly brought down the house.—E. E. M.

THE NEWLYWEDS AND THEIR BABY.

AS SEEN BY THE SHOW WORLD CARTOONIST Z.A. HENDRICK, AT THE AUDITORIUM THEATRE, CHICAGO.

THREE WEEKS COMMENCING JAN. 17TH 1909 Founded on the Cartoons by Geo McManus By Arrangement with The NEW YORK WORLD.



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Manuscripts or news matter will not be considered unless written upon one side of the paper only and addressed in the lower left hand corner of the envelope to The News Editor.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES LABEL COUNCIL UNION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1909.

EDITORIAL.

Improved Nickel Theaters.

(Chicago Tribune.)

The nickel theater may have positive educational value. Committees of the Chicago Woman's Club report that investigation shows decided improvement in these places of popular resort. Demoralizing tendencies are being checked, so that theaters once of doubtful character are counted among the helpful influences of their neighborhoods.

That the nickel shows meet a popular need is apparent from their drawing power. Most of them are making money despite their small admission fee. That means they are furnishing entertainments which are sufficiently attractive to secure the repeated attendance of a more or less limited constituency. Unless they made the right sort of appeal, their receipts would soon fall off.

Certain physical evils have been noted in connection with them. As a consequence some regulation has been necessary and proper. Care has been demanded in the electric wiring. Some degree of technical skill in using the moving picture machines has been required. Supervision of the methods of handling the audiences in respect to overcrowding, to the interest of the safety of life and morals. They have not required any exceptional or extraordinary outlays on the part of the operators. That a committee of investigation is able to report favorably upon their general character shows that the requirements have been met in the proper spirit.

If now it should develop that subjects of some educational value are preferred to those of the blood and thunder type, or to those where temporary amusement is afforded by impossible situations labeled "humorous," the theaters may become positive benefits to their surrounding neighborhoods. People demand entertainment and amusement. Many of them are limited in the amount they can spend. Others do not care to go far from home in the evening. There are far worse places than the nickel theaters which might be frequented were it not for this new, cheap, and apparently satisfactory type of popular resort.

The Atchison Globe rises to remark that it takes a Chicago production to please the theater goers of that city and while the writer of this may have been a cub reporter whose judgment is not worth much on the chances of the Standard Oil paying its big fine, he expresses an opinion as to shows which would seem to come from the heart:

"The show at the theater last night was from Chicago. Chicago is becoming quite important as a producing center. One thing about the Chicago productions is that they have better choruses and better singers than the New York shows that come to Atchison. The average New York musical comedy runs a whole lot on its name. It has good scenery, one or two good funny men, but nearly always has bum singers and a cheap lot of chorus girls."

It is truly gratifying to every friend of the circus owners and the Alliance of Billers to know that an agreement was reached at the meeting held last Sunday; to know that peace reigns among the employers of billers and the billers themselves, whose importance to the circus world can hardly be over estimated. The questions in dispute may have seemed trifling to those who have never been connected with the advance of a tented enterprise but they are not to the man who has traveled the long country routes or handled an advertising car or acted as general agent for a monster organization.

The factors who control the combination houses may or may not be on the verge of war. The signs indicate that there is great activity in a quiet way and the public announcement made by Ray Comstock that he does not represent the Shuberts in securing houses is especially interesting and important at this time.

A Beautiful Program.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 25.

Stanley C. Ayers, manager of the advertising department of the Miles theater, playing advanced vaudeville, is justly proud of the artistic program given to the patrons of the house. Many of the leading merchants of the city are finding the program a profitable advertising medium. Mr. Ayers was formerly associated with the staff of the Majestic theater, St. Paul, which is also owned by the Miles interests.

New Press Agent Scheme.

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 28.

A scheme which will probably prove of great benefit to press agents has been originated by Pyne of Parsons' theater. The usual press stories are written, together with a sketch of each member of the company represented by the agent and the matter is then set in type and matrixes are made and sent to such papers as the agent desires to cover. This not only saves time and money to agents and managers, but to newspapers as well. The scheme has worked with great success here in connection with the Blue Mouse advertising—HARRIS.

T. M. A. NOTES.

Spokane Lodge No. 47 gave its first annual hop Jan. 20 and Charles Rich was master of ceremonies.—SMITH.

Oklahoma Lodge No. 85 initiated a number of candidates and installed the following officers Jan. 22: Elliott Alton, president; F. H. Hayres, vice-president; Tom Wyant, past president; Charles Nickle, recording secretary; H. F. Maliniski, treasurer; Fred E. Ward, financial secretary; Guy Oliver, marshal; Frank Robinson, sergeant-at-arms; and Dr. S. H. Darlington, physician. R. N. Campbell, Nark Pollard, Charles Nickle, Walter Wortham and C. R. Wilson, trustees.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chicago, Jan. 26.

Editor SHOW WORLD:

The rapid development of moving pictures as a form of amusement and a means of education to those who are unable to attend the higher priced forms of amusement has at last attracted the attention of that meanest of all grafters, the political grafter. With the growth in number of the moving picture shows came a demand for capable operators for the machines, and subsequently the organization of the Moving Picture Machine Operators' Union, which had as its purpose the betterment of the working conditions surrounding the employment of the operator engaged in the giving of the entertainment. Had the organizers of this union proceeded fairly to secure for the members of their union the benefits which accrue from intelligent organization, the movement could have been applauded as a boon to the members of the Picture Machine Operators' union and an added security for the safety of the patrons of the moving picture shows. But it appears that this has not been the case. The promoters of the union were first elected to serve as officers of the union and through political influence, these officers had themselves appointed a commission for the purpose of examining all applicants for membership into the union as to their qualifications as operators. This commission acts gratuitously for the municipality and issues licenses to such applicants as are successful in passing the examination of this commission. It is this fact that suggests one source of danger to the future success of the moving picture theaters in Chicago.

This city has in its employ inspectors in the electrical, building and fire departments, who through their knowledge of the ordinances bearing upon the subject, and their technical knowledge of the situation as it relates to their respective departments that could qualify as a board of commissioners whose jurisdiction would embrace the location of the theater as to its safety to adjoining property, its construction as to its safety for the purposes of an amusement institution, covering not only its physical construction, but the installation of the electrical apparatus necessary for the giving of the entertainment, and its equipment with sufficient fire-fighting apparatus to reduce to the minimum the danger from fire (and also the examination of all applicants for licenses for moving picture operators.) The danger from fire and panic lies largely if not entirely with the operator and he should present himself to his employer with a clean bill, issued by the proper authorities who have themselves been able to qualify as to their fitness to pass upon such important matters.

The public, who have a right to demand that institutions which are thrown open to them should be surrounded with every means to insure their comfort and safety, and those interested in the moving picture business owe to themselves and to their patrons the safety that the proper and responsible supervision of their business will insure, and to that end interest themselves in the enactment of such legislation as will legitimize their business and remove from it any suggestion of graft. Unless steps are at once taken to accomplish this result the different governing bodies through the country inspired by such interests as are now in evidence in Chicago will be forced to enact legislation that will be injurious to a business that is capable of supplying amusement to a very large part of the people at a price that is within their reach and place the control of this branch of the amusement business in the hands of a few who may not be prompted by a spirit of fairness and equity. Get together, moving picture interests, and by your combined efforts seek to bring about a condition that will be above reproach and criticism.

A Moving Picture Exhibitor.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 26.

Editor SHOW WORLD:—

Will the advertising agents of the circuses carry the "hod" or is that a new name for the special agents?

ANXIOUS BILLER.

Habana, 11, de Enero, de, 1909.

Editor THE SHOW WORLD, Chicago:—

We have read in your issue of Dec. 19, page 8, an article by Charles A. Prada, and we find in that article many errors, which would change the true facts, and which we feel compelled to correct in our own defense and to give the facts exactly as they are. The mistakes are the following:

(1) The only man in Cuba and especially Hahana, who has imported American films in rather good number has been Charles A. Prada, then, of course, the lack of credit of American films is only due to said Mr. Prada.

(2) There are three firms in Havana handling the film renting business, the Cuban Cinematograph Company, having a little over 2,000 films in stock with a value of $85,000; the Metropolitan Films Company, a little over 1,000 films with an estimated value of $40,000, and the Habanera Cinematographic Company, about 600 films, being worth about $25,000. That is to say that the company mentioned by Mr. Prada as being the strongest—on account of his interest in the firm—is only the smallest and the one counting with the less resources.

This is the fact and to prove it we have pleasure in enclosing our catalog and invite you to ask the other two companies for theirs, being sure that our statements will not be denied.

Very truly yours,
COMPANIA CINEMATOGRAPHICA
CUBA, Per Anton Mondel.

Of Course You Can.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 25, 1909.

Editor THE SHOW WORLD:—

Will stars ever learn that it takes more than one or two people to make a successful theatrical production, and if they do so learn will they ever acknowledge the fact that those who assist in making a show popular and successful are entitled to an occasional notice in the newspapers? I know these are two questions that will be hard to crack. But a case in evidence. At a local house here last week a production, featuring two people, played a week's engagement. During the first portion of the week the local papers devoted their space to write-ups of the stars and the show, and the notices were not of the old mimeographed order, either, but fresh news stories each day. On Friday in the Chattanooga News I devoted the space to a write-up of one of the other members of the cast and the manager of the company came near getting fired by one of the stars because I did so. The poor manager had no more to do with the write-up than did the editor of THE SHOW WORLD, but he was made to suffer.

What I would like to know is this: May we writers of amusement "dope" be allowed to give an occasional notice to a player, other than a star, without doing damage to the company manager? I devote from six to twelve notices to each attraction playing a week here and at least nine-tenths of these notices go to the featured member of the cast. Can't I, once in a great while, give notice to other deserving players? Sometimes, you know, the support is even better than the star.

W. V. TURLEY,
Dramatic Editor The News.

OBITUARY

Robinson—Frank Robinson was accidentally killed Jan. 21 at Mitchell, S. D. See notice elsewhere in these columns.

Gillin—Robert F. Gillin, a pioneer in the field of theatrical poster engraving, died of pneumonia at his home, 65 Berkeley place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mansfield—Eugene Mansfield, a painter for the Ringling Brothers at Baraboo, Wis., who had been in their employ for three years, died Jan. 20 of pneumonia. His mother lives at DuQuoin, Ill.

Denning—Gertrude Denning, a member of the team of Tierney and Denning playing over the Orpheum Circuit, died at her home four miles from Dubuque, Ia. She began as a member of the Prince of Pilson chorus. Typhoid fever was the malady.

Conlin.—Harry Conlin, of Conlin & Carter, and formerly of Conlin & Ryder, died Jan. 23 at Chicago of spinal meningitis. He had been ill for two or three months. He was a well known western comedian and was a member of the White Rats and the Eagles. The last sad rites were performed by the Seattle lodge of Eagles, assisted by the White Rats.

MARRIAGES.

Downey-Unitt.—Samuel H. Downey, a musician at the Majestic in Lincoln, Neb., and Dora E. Unitt surprised their friends by getting married.—GERSPACHER.

Leonard-Russell.—Eddie Leonard and Mabel Russell were united in marriage at New York, Jan. 21. Billy B. Van, Rose Beaumont and William Crossman were the witnesses.

Rathbone-Reynolds — James Colburn Rathbone and Lillian Ford Reynolds, members of the San Francisco opera company, were united in marriage at New West Minister, B. C.—LUCE.

Bates-Beckman.—E. H. Bates, a well known young business man and Lee Beckman, harpist, in the Henry band and orchestra, were united in marriage Jan. 18.

Schlesinger-Schniff.—Morris S. Schlesinger, manager of Blaney's Lincoln Square theater, New York, was married last week to Miss Gretchen Schniff, of West Seventy-seventh street, New York. They started on their honeymoon and spent a few days at Atlantic City, and then joined their brothers, Gus and Leon, treasurer and assistant, respectively, of the Colonial theater. A few days were spent with the parents of the groom in Philadelphia and the couple returned to New York.

BIRTHS

Albert—A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Albert (Sarah Truax) at Minneapolis, Jan. 22.

Two Turnaways.

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 26.

Two good shows in a week caused Manager Charles Sweeton to be all smiles for at both The Right of Way and The Wolf. The house was sold out and people had to be turned away.—OBERDORFER.

Missouri Breeze.

A ZEPHYR FROM "SHOW ME-LAND"

Vol. 4. CHICAGO, JANUARY 29, 1909 No. 5

THE MISSOURI BREEZE.

E. E. Meredith, Editor.

(Office under the editor's hat.)

N. B.—The Breeze does not nor never has advertised in the Chicago Examiner.

January of 1909 will be remembered by many persons engaged in the theatrical business.

R. Victor Leighton intended to take a troupe out of San Antonio, but his angel got away. He is now in Denver.

The Breeze is of the opinion that either the combination or the independents will win in the present moving picture war.

Dode Fisk is reported to have purchased an elephant from J. H. LaPearl last week. He must intend to have a real show this season.

The Quincy Herald has this sporting note: "Oscar Hammerstein, the New York impressario, leads a happy life as compared with some baseball managers."

No wonder William Morris knows how to put on a vaudeville show. Worcester coigned a word looking forward to his advent in the vaudeville field. Here it is: Morris—A kind of play; Morris dance.

A company styling themselves The Merry New York Maids played an engagement last week at the Huntington (W. Va.) theater. The manager of the company, Mr. Thornet, was standing in the lobby of the theater talking to Joe Gainer, the house manager, when an inebriated individual stalled in front of them. "Do you want to see the show?" affably inquired Thornet, as he led him towards the box office. "Thanks," replied the boozy one as he passed the ticket-taker, "I am something of an amateur myself."

When it comes to putting things over there isn't a manager in America who has anything on Fred G. Conrad. His Two Orphans company actually arrived in Pittsburg, Texas, recently before the house manager found out he was playing a show. Conrad's office does the advance agent's work and with numerous letters to the opera house manager and an assignment of paper for the bill boards the local manager still labored under the impression that he was playing a lecture course entertainment until the members of the company alighted from the train. The sheriff of the county was too smart to be fooled. Lecturers may appear there without license but he did not mean to let a troupe get out so easily. He came to the door with a charge of $3 for license. It took two complimentary tickets to square the officer of the law.

Fistic Notes.

James J. Jeffries is said to have received $3,000 for his week at the Wigwam in Frisco.

James J. Corbett is making a hit in Facing the Music, now on its way back east.

Oscar Hamerstein says he can lick any five newspaper reporters in New York.

Arnold Daly is scoring a success with The Strong People at the Grand opera house in Chicago.

Ten Joyous Things.

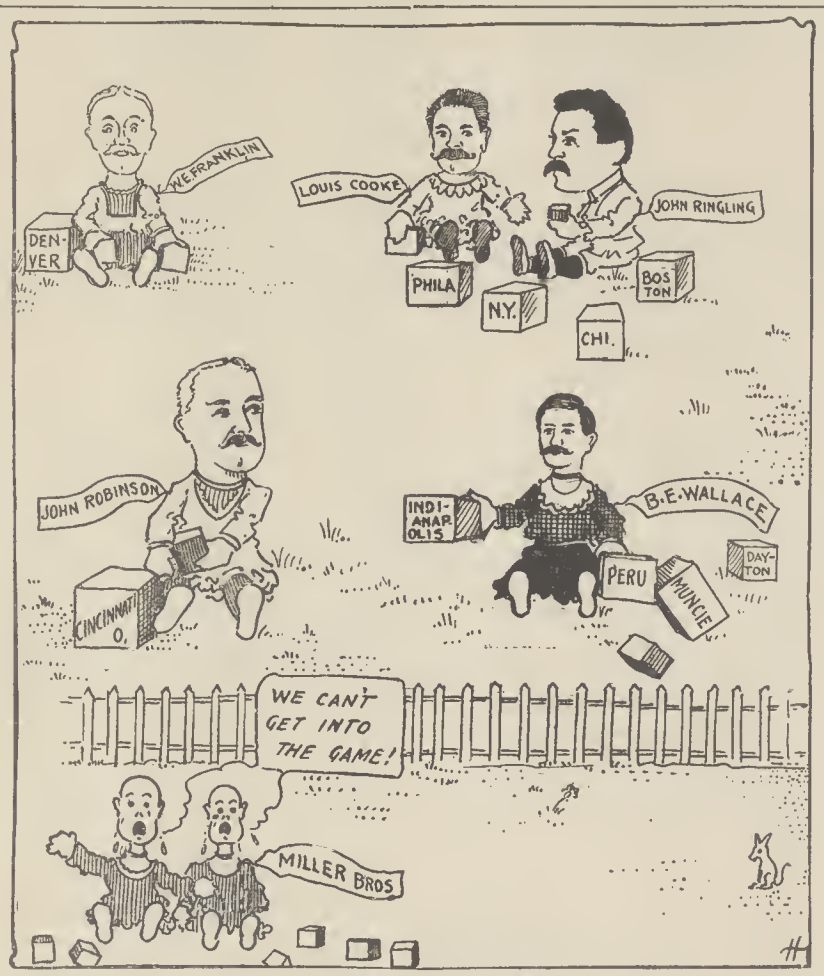
There are ten things for which an advance agent has never yet been sorry. They are:

1. For holding an angry tongue.
2. For staying away from bar rooms.
3. For getting up early in the morning.
4. For being economical while on the road.
5. For getting instructions to concel La Crosse, Wis.
6. For catching the first train out of New Straitsville, Ohio.
7. For having the street car conductor miss him when taking up fares.
8. For buying a glass of beer for a circus girl who was very much fatigued.
9. For entertaining a crowd in a hotel office with the merits of his show.
10. For receiving his salary promptly on the day that it is due him.

Three girls who said they belonged to the company presenting The Judge, the Girl and the Wise Guy, caused a commotion in the Cataract hotel at Sioux Falls, S. D., when pressed for payment of their bill. The trio had but eight cents. They said the manager of the company sent them there and told them to await his coming.

What is a Bohemian?

"A Bohemian," according to an author by the name of Guy P. Bolton, "is one who drinks beer on his own treat and champagne on yours."



PLAYING THE GAME OF CIRCUS BLOCKS

LOUISE DRESSER.

I remember you,
Honest, deed I do.
You used to be in vaudeville,
And have a good place on the bill,
I remember you,
And Mister Norworth, too,
You now must use your splendid art,
For something like a character part,
But they'll remember you.

EVA TANGUAY.

I don't care, I don't care,
They can't well upbraid me
For the very thing that made me,
For it's rare, when my share,
Of applause is not the equal
Of the early acts and sequel.
I don't care, I don't care,
They believe my song is on the level,
That I commune with the Devil,
But really, I don't care.

DO YOU REMEMBER—

When Paul Scott was an actor?
When Horace Herbert was a star?
When Jack Barrett was a heavyman?
When Ward & Vokes did a Chinese act?
When Charles Andress owned a circus?
When Mattie Choate was in repertoire?
When A. Milo Bennett was an actor?
When Dave Livingstone was a cowboy?
When Ada Jewel was a dramatic woman?
When Vic Hugo made side show openings?
When J. C. Matthews had a red mustache?
When Nat Goodwin married his first wife?
When McKee Rankin played The Canuck?
When Lew Graham began to take on flesh?
When Jerry Dailey presented the "Governor" with a Pullman palace car?
When Cecil Lean was with Ward & Vokes?
When C. C. O'Donnell ran for mayor of Frisco?
When Arthur Thomas managed Richard Mansfield.
When Billy Clifton was in opera in New Orleans?
When Ruby Ray was at the Gaiety in London?
When Fred Bock starred in Monte Cristo?
When George King was with In Old Kentucky?
When Alex Spencer had Ulrich's cave in St. Louis?
When Ed Rowland was with A Soap Bubble?
When the World's Greatest shows went on rails?
When Jack Mellon played Little Lord Fauntleroy?
When Elsa Ryan was with Jessie Bonstelle in stock?
When Carl Laemmle was a voter at Oshkosh?
When Chris O. Brown was with the White Tops?
When Nellie Revell told "futures" on a circus lot?
When Harvey L. Watkins helped to boss things with the B. & B. troupe?
When Billy Vogt was in the Ringling ticket wagon?
When Henry Lee exploited Cyclo-homo in Chicago?
When John Calvin Brown was a broker in Chicago?
When Chris. O. Brown was with the White Tops?
When Jake Sternad worked in a plow factory at Racine?
When Kerry Meagher managed a circus advertising car?
When Sky Clark O. K.'d the Barnum & Bailey feed bills?
When Billy Dunley was the tramp in Sidetracked?
When Hans Greve was a designer for The Courier?
When Jack Welch was with The Real Widow Brown?
When Jimmie Greer was office boy for Harry Powers?
When A. Q. Scammon was agent for The Two Johns?
When May Smith Robbins was the star of Little Trixie?
When Jack Fleming played the tramp in In Louisiana?
When Hubert Labadie was with The Power of Money?
When Billy Henderson was a theatrical agent in Chicago?
When Arnold Wolford was a smuggler in the high grass?
When Ollie Eckert was in the American Stock in St. Louis?
When Olga Verne played the soubrette in Nobody's Child?
When Ed Anderson was a comedian with a repertoire show?
When D. E. Russell was manager of the Great Northern theater?
When Pere (Bob) Gennette was advance agent for Labadie's Faust?
When Bert Whitney was usher in his father's theater in Detroit?
When Lillian Mortimer was with Hunt's New York theater company?
When Sheldon Lewis was with the Giffin stock in St. Louis?
When George Nicolai was treasurer of the Standard theater at Milwaukee?
When Loie Fuller was soubrette with Harry Doel Parker in the west?
When Ed Salter advised the public to keep its eye on him?
When Edward Marsh played the Northwestern Music Hall in Chicago?
When George Ade was a Chicago newspaper reporter?
When Dave Watt was treasurer of the Adam Forepaugh show?
When Thomas McKee was advance agent for Robert Downing?
When Jules Murry was employed at the Winterburn Show Print?
When John Holland arranged for the minstrels to play Schubenacadie?
When C. Jay Smith played the black face part in A Turkish Bath?
When R. Victor Leighton dished up hash at a Syracuse restaurant?
When Oliver Doud Byron was with the "original" company in East Lynne?
When W. O. Tarkington received the telegram stating that he was a father?
When W. J. Daunt run a livery barn in Watertown, N. Y.?
When Fred Mace went to dental college with Doc Hanley?
When George C. Tucker resolved to stick to the live one?
When Major Gordon W. Lillie was a school teacher in Oklahoma?
When Charles Bernard was treasurer of the Walter L. Main show?
When Hugh Harrison opened his diamond store in Seattle?
When Kohl & Middleton's dime museum was one of Chicago's show places?
When Fred Buchanan butted into the circus business?
When Spencer Delavan groomed horses in a Janesville livery barn?
When Rhoda Royal was a circus stable boy?
When Jim Jordan sold "sixties" with the Buffalo Bill show?
When Col. Cody played "opery" houses in the tank towns?
When Tom Rankine studied the Russian language?
When Delavan (Wis.) was the Western capital of the circus world?
When Punch Wheeler was not playing himself up in the public prints?
When Sam McCracken checked up lithographs with the Ringling show?
When Capt. Frank Wilson handled the press for the Ten Big?
When Martin Downs became a circus proprietor?
When T. Nelson Downs was a telegraph operator in Marshalltown?
When Lyman B. Glover was dramatic critic on a Chicago newspaper?
When Willard D. Coxey wrote copy for The Chicago Journal?
When John Ringling purchased his first automobile.
When James D. Barton was a circus ticket seller?
When Henry Ringling was manager of the John Robinson show?
When W. R. Macdonald was secretary of the B. & B. show?
When Charles Seeley went to Australia with the Sells Bros.' show?
When J. K. Sebree was one of the boys with the Burr Robbins circus?
When Doc Freeman started a dime museum on the west side?
When Bunk Allen ran the "Bucket of Blood" on North Green street?
When Harry Davis opened the first moving picture show in Pittsburg?
When W. H. McFarland introduced the "wild man" as a side show feature?
When James J. Gray sold real estate in Lu Verne, Minn.?
When George Bowles was press agent with the Barnum how?
When Frank L. Perley handled the newspapers in Boston for the Ringlings?
When Eddie Arlington blew his bankroll against Blue Jeans?
When Paul D. Howse ran a dime museum in St. Louis?
When David Beehler promoted publicity for the Chicago Opera House?
When Nobby Clark and Bob Terry opened their first big store?
When W. E. Franklin was joint proprietor of a circus?
When W. P. Hall was first stung by the circus bee?
When the "big wind" hit the Ringing show at Ellsworth, Kan., and Witz saved the tickets?
When Tody Hamilton was considered the greatest circus press agent in the world?

A WORD TO THE WISE---PROSPERITY FOLLOWS ALL SELIG FILM USERS. USE SELIG FILMS

Order from your nearest Film Exchange. This Film should Live Forever and Always Draw Packed Houses.
The Greatest War Picture Turned Out. Don't Miss It.

Stirring Days in Old Virginia

CODE WORD, OLD VIRGINIA

Length 1000 Feet. RELEASED FEBRUARY 4, 1909

THE SELIG POLYSCOPE CO., Inc., 45-47-49 E. Randolph St., Chicago, U. S. A.

LATE FILM SUBJECTS

AMONG the film subjects recently released by various manufacturers are the following:

The Guard's Alarm, Urban-Eclipse, 463 feet.—The guard buys an alarm clock, and falling asleep dreams he is aroused by the clock and throws it on the floor. It continues to ring and he immerses it in his wash-basin, and again retires. He arises to find he has no time to dress, and clad in his pajamas he leaps for his van, but the train magically disappears. After many amusing and terrifying experiences he awakes, looks at his new clock, and, greatly relieved, relapses into peaceful slumber.

Gendarme's Horses, Gaumont, 275 feet.—The well-trained horses of the gendarmes foil a daring plot of a couple of prowlers by trotting their captors into the arms of the law. In the chase that ensues many ludicrous and exciting episodes are enacted.

A Mother's Heart, Gaumont, 650 feet.—A careworn mother is discarded by her son and his wife. Sickness befalls the young man, and his wife leaves him to his fate, but his mother nurses him back to health. Noting the love of the son for the undeserving wife, the mother stifles her prejudices and brings about the reunion of the estranged couple, who ever after vow to take care of the aged woman.

The Living Wreck, Urban-Eclipse, 562 feet.—A coast town scene, with the people gathering seaweed; fragments of a shipwreck are washed ashore and from a rafter is taken the almost lifeless form of a victim of the wreck. Two natives rob the unconscious man, and when he regains consciousness and detects his loss a search is instituted. In the meantime, the thieves have fought over the spoils, and one has been wounded and deprived of his share. He adds his accusation to the suspicion pointing to the other thief, who is arrested.

The Nurse's Romance, Gaumont, 925 feet.—The hired man is in love with the daughter of the farmer. A young woman from town appears and the young man becomes infatuated, only to be discarded for the polished admirer of the siren. Heartbroken, the youth makes an ineffectual attempt to end his existence, but is rescued. At the hospital he finds that the nurse in attendance is the maid whom he treated so heartlessly, and as punishment for which his life and happiness have been wrecked.

The Welcome Burglar, Biograph, 790 feet.—Alice Pierce consents to elope with Ben Harris, a rascal. He tires of her and deserts her. She secures a position as a stenographer, and marries the manager. She is seen and recognized by her first husband whom she supposed dead. Harris sends a false telegram to her husband, luring him away from home, and then calls at her home. A burglar has effected an entrance and is hiding behind the portiers. Harris locks the door and seizes the frightened woman, and in the struggle backs against the burglar who shoots and kills him. The husband returns and finds the door locked. To avert his suspicions Alice bids the burglar decamp, leaving his tools behind, and as her husband bursts into the room she stands over the prostrate form of her former spouse with the pistol in her hand, and pretends the lifeless body is that of a burglar whom she has shot.

Those Awful Hats, Biograph, 185 feet.—The scene is the interior of a motion picture theater; during the performance big hats are much in evidence. Grappling tongs are let down from the ceiling, which clutch the millinery and haul it out of sight.

The Cord of Life, Biograph, 857 feet.—Antoine, a scoundrel, demands money of his cousin, a good husband and father, and being refused vows to get even. He takes his cousin's infant and placing it in a basket let it out with a short rope, the end of which is secured by letting the sash down on it. He then follows his cousin, who is saved from death by the arrival of a policeman. He boasts of what he has done, and his cousin dashes wildly home and rescues the child from its perilous position.

A Romance of Old Madrid, Edison, 900 feet.—Paquita, the beautiful daughter of poor peasants, makes her first visit to the city. At a bull fight she meets Carlos, a famous bull fighter, and they fall in love. Fearing opposition, she agrees to elope. They attend a masked ball, and the lovers slip away and are married.

A Modest Young Man, Edison, 900 feet.—A guileless young man, over-modest, determines to start a crusade against all sights that offend his shrinking nature. Later, his friends—including a bevy of bright young ladies—take him in hand, and his extreme sensitiveness is considerably toned down. An innocent post card, picturing a pretty chorus girl, grates on his delicate nerves and he has a fit; an unexpected corset demonstration in a store window causes him to beat a blushing retreat; the sight of a poster displaying the charms of a prominent burlesque actress puts him in a frenzy; around an undraped statue he places his overcoat and is arrested. On beholding a lady in a low-neck dress he faints, and is shocked when he sees a baby in its bath. His friends finally determine to cure him of his peevishness and arrange a fitting climax that causes him to forever forswear his prudish scruples.

Stirring Days in Old Virginia, Selig.—A war picture full of action. A southern mansion, on which General Logan has encamped with his soldiers. The signal corps in operation. Lee's camp in the woods near Petersburg. Captain Warren acts as a spy and enters the Federal lines. He secures the documents he is after and escapes followed by a fusilade of shots. The pursuit. The battle. Warren is captured and ordered executed. His wife inveigles the guard into conversation while the old slave extracts the bullets from the paper shells of the guns nearby. The captain is blindfolded and the order given to fire. Warren feigns death and drops. The soldiers depart and Warren escapes. The last battle of the war. The surrender of Lee.

A Suit Case, 615 feet.—A young man is engaged as a detective, and in endeavoring to capture the man he is sent out for makes many blunders, holding up the wrong people, getting soundly thrashed, and finally is threatened with suits for damages by his victims, who handle him roughly at the police station. The police throw him out, and while they are busy with the amateur detective a sneak thief goes through a department store, taking everything he can lay his hands on. The thief is caught and dressed in a striped suit.

Who Stole Jones' Wood, Lubin, 270 feet.—Jones has his wood stolen by Mike, his neighbor. Jones lays a trap for the thief, fixing a string to a gun, so that it will go off when the door is pulled. He falls asleep, however, and Mike gets the wood. Next time Jones fills a hollow log with gunpowder. Mike gets it, there is an explosion and he and his wife are thrown into Jones' backyard.

The New Mirror, Lubin, 480 feet.—A young husband buys his wife a new mirror. As she is fixing her hair she sees the reflection of a burglar hiding behind a curtain. She acts as if nothing had occurred, goes downstairs and phones the police. The thief escapes, but is pursued and captured.

Love Germs, Lubin, 460 feet.—Prof. Smarty discovers a love germ. His assistant takes the bottle containing the germs and tries them on young and old, with astonishing results. He suffers himself, however, when the bottle breaks and he inhales the love germs.

(Received too late for classification.)

The Musician's Love Story, Essanay, 1,000 feet.—A girl falls in love with her music teacher, and against parental opposition marries him. A year goes by and we find her plunged in poverty. She goes back to her father, taking her baby with her, and leaving her husband. Eighteen years later the musician, in dire straits, rescues a girl from footpads. She asks for his card, and in giving it to her drops a pawn ticket for his violin. She redeems the instrument and takes it to him and he identifies her by his wife's wedding ring on her finger as his child. The picture ends showing the father, mother and daughter in happy reunion.

The Scar, Pathe, 606 feet.—Colored. Two noblemen are in love with Lady Cecile. She does not care for one of them. One day she is attacked by masked men, who try to kidnap her, and she bites one on the hand and escapes. Shortly after the discarded suitor proposes to

Sammy Celebrates, Pathe, 354 feet.—A sailor of the navy arrives in port and begins to celebrate the event in a hilarious way. After numerous escapades and escapes from the police, all of which are of a humorous nature, he is finally arrested.

Calling Day, Pathe, 469 feet.—A cook with many admirers takes advantage of the absence of the master and mistress to entertain them. The first caller is a policeman, but later, a soldier admirer unexpectedly calls. The manner in which she entertains them and is interrupted by other callers and finally by the home coming of the master and mistress is highly amusing.

Nick Carter's Double, Pathe, 469 feet.—A thief steals a bird from a cage in front of a house. The owner, a woman, hires a detective. He finally lands the thief, who, by now, has eaten the bird. But the detective, with the aid of a saw, removes the bird from the thief's stomach, alive. He is presented with a small bunch of flowers for his trouble.

Vampires of the Coast, Pathe, 590 feet.—A band of outlaws along a rocky coast make their living by luring ships to destruction and stealing their cargoes. One of the outlaws rescues the daughter of a wealthy family from drowning and falls in love with her. He watches his opportunity and when his pals fall into a drunken sleep, he carries her out of their cave and restores her to her parents. Later they are married.

A Put Up Job, Pathe, 348 feet.—Four young girls insert a matrimonial notice in a daily paper, to the effect that a young lady with five thousand dollars wants to marry a worthy man. A crowd of park loafers answer the ad. The difficulty which the young ladies encounter in trying to rid themselves of this crowd of men, furnish many ludicrous situations.

Saved by His Dog, Pathe, 512 feet.—A beggar woman being refused alms by a certain rich family vows vengeance. She steals the baby of the family. The infant is finally recovered through the efforts of the family dog.

On the Zambesi, Pathe, 328 feet.—Views along the famous Zambesi river.

PICTURE EXHIBITORS HOLD STORMY SESSION.

(Continued from Page 3)

out of your business, and you must pay the expenses.

"Most all of you present here know that some time ago the same movement, along different lines, was taken by the Edison company, who rang in a bluff that they would close up every five cent theater that did not take films from them, and took out injunctions against a good many theater owners, among them myself.

"This resulted in a movement among local exhibitors which forced the Edison company to finally give up its fight, or, as they did, buy out the concern which the independents supported in its fight. The Edison company soon found out that they had no strength in their patents. None of the patents owned today by the combined manufacturers are strong enough to sustain a victory in the United States Supreme Court.

"If the exhibitors of the United States will refuse to sign any royalty application the Patents Co. will soon be placed again in a position where they will see the failure of their new movement, and, therefore, gentlemen, we request you to pledge yourselves not to sign any of these unreasonable applications."

Mr. Friedlander then requested that all speakers limit themselves to five minutes, and stated:

"I have received notice that there will be present at this meeting some people that represent the trust, and who will try to run over this meeting, and I believe that we will be in a position to substantially guard against any such action. I hope that I will have the support of the exhibitors who are present, if it is necessary to keep them from swamping us.

"There will be no fees collected or assessments made during this meeting, or any of the following meetings, until we desire to form into a permanent society for the purpose of protection, and to secure the passage of local ordinances enabling us to run our business in a legitimate way."

George F. Bowersdorf, of the Film Import & Trading Co., then addressed the meeting, as follows:

"We are importing at present three reels of film that is known as independent film. We were one of the original Edison combine, but thanks to a very large French concern which thought it could supply the entire American public with French and European film, we were requested to withdraw. We today wish to maintain an open market, and also wish to advise all exhibitors against signing any license application which the Motion Picture Patents Co. may present. If you will remember last March the Edison Company licensed several rental exchanges. The licenses at that time did not amount to very much, but today they have forced down the throat of the exchanges this license which the chairman just read, which is an imposition in the worst form.

"I wish to assure you that within a short while there will be fourteen independent reels to be had, and besides that don't forget that if you don't use film from the trust they will be forced to open their market and give competition a fair field. At present there are seven independent reels to be had."

Dr. Richard Ray, of the Kansas City Film Exchange, was the next speaker:

"I am here in a dual capacity, representing the Kansas City Film Exchange, and exhibitors of Missouri and Kansas. I am vice-president of the protective association organized in New York some weeks ago. I have made a tour of Kansas and Missouri in the interest of the independent movement, and every exhibitor that I talked to has given me his word of

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Aunt Emmy's Scrap Book

Childhood days. School days. Love's token. The happiest day. Sorrow. The next morning. Reward for kindness and patience. What Jack did in the meantime. No answer. Jack goes to the West. Rich after twelve years. Off to find Emmy. The last chapter. A most beautiful picture, full of sentiment and motion.

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A comic film full of laughter making qualities.

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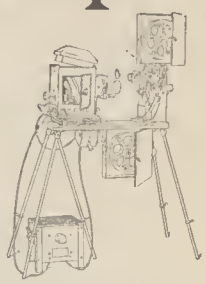

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To invest in an indifferent or inferior picture machine is to invite failure. The Edison Kinetoscope is unequalled for its brilliant, steady, clean-cut work. There is no unpleasant flicker, no wear on the films, no danger from fire and no complicated mechanisms to get out of order. The motion picture idea originated with Thomas A. Edison. He offers it in its most perfect form in his Kinetoscope. One of many decided improvements is its

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This lamp house is much larger than other types, has better radiation, takes longer carbons and, by reason of top, back and side openings, is much more accessible. A complete description of the Edison Kinetoscope, with illustrations, in booklet form, sent free on request.

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Shipment Jan. 26, 1909—No. 6416 **A ROMANCE OF OLD MADRID** Dramatic—App. Length 900 Ft. **Code VENGATIVA.**

Shipment Jan. 29, 1909—**A MODEST YOUNG MAN** Comedy. No. 6417. App. Length 900 Ft. **Code VENGATIVOS.**

NEXT WEEK'S SHIPMENTS

Shipment Feb. 2, 1909 No. 6418 **The Origin of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata** Dramatic. App. Length 900 Ft. **Code VENGEABLE.**

Shipment Feb. 5, 1909—**Adventures of An Old Flirt** Comedy. No. 6419. App. Length 900 Ft. **Code VENGEANCE**

EDISON MANUFACTURING COMPANY

MAIN OFFICE AND FACTORY, 74 LAKESIDE AVE., ORANGE, N. J.
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honor that he positively would not sign the Patents agreement."

Mr. Ray then entered into a lengthy argument to the effect that under the new arrangement the film exchanges would have to charge more for their films, as they were only allowed to keep them a limited time and consequently would have to get more revenue from them while they were working. He advised all exhibitors to use independent film because it was best, stating that he made more money in Kansas City than his competitors, notwithstanding his expenses were heavier.

Mr. Ray was followed by Alfred H. Saunders, editor of the Moving Picture News, who entertained the assemblage with an oration, or rather a phillipic, upon the Motion Picture Patents Co. Mr. Saunders climbed the ladder of oratory step by step till he reached the skies, from whence he gripped the American eagle, and holding the emblem of liberty in front of his audience till it screeched, he denounced George Kleine, the Edison Co., the Motion Picture Patents Co. and its licensees whom he declared were flying under the black flag of the pirates, mentioning Messrs. Dyer, Scull, Kennedy and Marvin. He read an editorial which he stated he had prepared himself on similar lines, that "the Motion Picture Patents Co, was a power to whom we made a great obeisance, but do not worship;" that the Patents Co. was trying to get $1,040,000 a year from exhibitors, and advised the exhibitors not to sign.

vised the exhibitors not to sign.

Attired in a frock coat, with his Madonna face and flowing beard, Mr. Saunders' picturesque appearance and impassioned words made a deep impression. He did not state where he was hooked next week, but it is not improbable that theater goers will have the pleasure of witnessing the act on the vaudeville stage if he can be persuaded to forego the battle for independence in which he has arrayed himself.

George Bradenberg, of the International Film Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, stated that his concern had ceased manufacturing films as there was no market for same, but now that the independent movement was started he would go back to it.

Mr. Pink, of the Viascope Co., said: "We have not been asked to go into the trust, and are not figuring upon going into it. We will keep on building Viascopes and selling them." He stated that his machine was not an infringement and advised exhibitors not to sign the license application. "I don't believe they can touch us with any of the patents they have now," he continued, "and if it comes to a fight we could easily hold our own with them."

The next speaker was N. W. Rubel, representing the Royal, Globe and Chicago film exchanges, who said in substance: "We have gotten together ten film exchanges ready to supply anybody with any kind of films they want. We expected trouble with the Patents Company, and forewarned is forearmed. We have engaged as counsel the firm of Moran, Mayer & Austrain and Munday, Evarts, Adcock & Clarke, patent attorneys, and Howe & Fordham, and have already spent thousands of dollars. Already we have people at work. One is investigating the American films; one will sail for Europe tomorrow to scour the market there, and one has been appointed to see, if possible, individually or by committees, the exhibitors in different parts of the country to get their co-operation. Another stands ready to answer all questions of the exhibitors necessary to assist them in their business."

George F. Kearney, of the Wolverine Film & Supply Co., Detroit, a member of the Independent Protective Picture Association of that city, said he had declined to sign the agreement, and talked on the New York association of exhibitors recently formed. He advised the exhibitors to organize.

Mr. Chatkin, of the Globe Film Co., made a short address, stating that the Globe stood ready to supply exhibitors with any number of films desired, and would protect them in the use of same.

David Horsley, of the Centaur Film Co., Bayonne, N. J., stated that there had not been enough trade in America and he had therefore sent his negatives to Europe; that he was getting out one reel a week, which would be available for the independent exhibitors.

Morris Biefeld, vice-president of the White City Construction Co., and owner of a string of theaters, said: "The attempt to levy blackmail—I cannot call it any other name—upon each and every exhibitor is an outrage on decency, and an insult to ordinary dignity. When I received the circular proposing that I should be levied upon for the machine which I bought and paid for, and had in use for a year, and I should stand a tribute of $2 a week, I considered that an insult to me as an ordinary business man. I will go to the length of any proposition rather than brook an insult of that kind. I am with you on any motion. I am not prepared to propose any remedies. I have just entered the hall this minute, and have not heard what has transpired. But I am with you and stand by you in anything that is feasible."

Harry Rubel, of the Chicago Film Exchange, said: "I am not a man of many words; I am the man behind the gun. I have taken the responsible work of publicity for this cause, acting as the representative of the Chicago and other exchanges who will be identified with them in the independent movement."

Mr. Rubel then read a number of circulars he had prepared for distribution.

Mr. McMillan, of the Unique Film & Construction, followed, stating that he represented the Italian Cines and the Great Northern Film Co., and invited the exhibitors to call and see the films he had.

In the meantime insistent calls were being made for Dan Mulvey, and he secured the floor, exploding a bomb in the midst of the gathering. Mr. Mulvey said:

"I did not expect to do any talking. I came to listen, like a great many others. The reason this meeting has been called, of course, is for the benefit of the exhibitors. I am under the impression that there are two combinations, and which of these two we are to join remains to be seen. I was one of the first, with Messrs. Heifeld, Friedlander, and Cozart, when we got together about a year ago and fought for the independent film exchange. At that time the price was raised to $50 and $60. At that time we had with us George Kleine. Mr. Kleine, as Mr. Saunders has said, came to the front and said, 'Hand it to the Edison Company.' We did. We felt at liberty to hand it to them, and say whatever we saw fit to say. That is only a few months back. I think then there was an independent exchange put into the field which, without a doubt, brought down the price of film. The question is whether those men are with us today. It is a question whether George Kleine is with us today, as he was at that time. It remains to be seen whether the Patents Company that is before us is not for the benefit of each exhibitor in Chicago. We need their help, especially every exhibitor who has a seating capacity of from 150 to 400 seats. If the combination can do as they claim, give us the support and the backing and benefit the exhibitor, I feel that it would probably be a good thing for the little two dollars a week that they might charge us to back up that combination. I understand their object is to keep out competition. We all know that if you start a moving picture theater in a good locality within a short time somebody comes in and competes with you, and the first thing you know there is still another, and you have to put in vaudeville acts, probably two or three, and nobody makes any money. On the other hand if it is all a matter of bunk, and a matter of one concern, or three or four gentlemen reaping the benefit of this two dollars a week, which amounts to $1,040,000 a year, then it is a question for each and every individual to decide, and study thoroughly whether he cares to give these three or four people a bank with that enormous sum of money. You may be paying two dollars a week and getting back fifty for each dollar in benefits. If it is a fact that these people have the power to license a moving picture show, leaving only a certain number in a locality where there are sufficient to take care of the public, then I think it is a benefit to each and every exhibitor in Chicago, for we all know what the competition is.

"With five, six, seven and eight houses in one locality, and nothing to stop others from coming in, we are certainly going to wear out the public, and we won't make a dollar. We will also wear ourselves out.

"It is a matter to be looked into, whether the combination of the Edison and Biograph companies are in a position to support the exhibitor. I am speaking for the exhibitor as I did three or four months ago. It is not a case of back one concern or the other, or any personal interest at stake. I am an exhibitor and do not represent any film exchange. Each exhibitor ought to study out for himself and find out the situation and see whether it is not best for him to sign.

"I certainly appreciate the efforts these gentlemen are putting forth to bring us closer together, and that we are, of course, much stronger. At the same time we have got two combinations offered to us. Which one of these two do we want to join? I think that you should think it over seriously between now and the first of the month, and let each one decide as to which is the best one. If we can get protection we will not be overloaded with riff-raff shows, which keep anybody from making a dollar."

David Horsley disputed the claim that the Patents company could prevent any one from starting a show alongside of a theater, and cited the case of a Chinaman who compelled the Troy Laundry Machinery Co. to sell him a machine.

Dr. Ray then made another address, stating that he had consulted with the best lawyers in Missouri, including Attorney General Hadley, who said, regarding the proposed license agreement: "The minute you sign that the property rights now vested in you are forever gone, and you can not start in business anywhere. They can stop you because you re-invest the right you have back to them for the privilege of running a few days."

N. W. Rubel then stated: "You don't have to sign any agreement at all. Just stand pat. If you don't sign and you go to any licensed exchange they will only be too glad to give you all the film you want. Don't sign. If you do sign you are a goner."

Here Mr. Saunders got into the game again, and responding to an encore took another bow.

A resolution was then unanimously passed against signing the license application. In the meantime insistent cries were being made for George Hines, the veteran showman, who operates the Senate theater. Mr. Hines finally got the floor, and said:

"I did not come up here to say anything; I came here to listen, and I am very much pleased that I came. As far as the Edison Company and the Patents Company are concerned, I am very much pleased to announce that I applied for a license and I have got license number 1.

"What we need here in Chicago is for the exhibitors to get together and organize a society of our own. We need one.

"I believe the Patents Company is very fair. They say they will protect us from having strong competition, and that nobody will get a license until after investigation. If we keep out competition those

(Continued on Page 13)

WAGE SCALE CHANGES; CIRCUSES SATISFIED

(Continued from Page 3.)

ent upon the invitation of Charles Ringling. The out-of-town members of the circus committee of the billers came here upon an understanding between President Elliott and Mr. Ringling.

Present at this meeting were George Elliott, of Chicago; Thomas Cahill, of Chicago; George Murray, of Cincinnati, and Frank F. Smith, of St. Louis, being four of the five members of the circus committee of the International Alliance. The circus men present were: Ed. C. Knupp, general agent of the Cole Brothers Show; R. M. Harvey, general agent of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Show; Harry Earl, general agent of the Sells-Floto Show; George Aiken, representing the John Robinson show; Charles Ringling, Ralph Peckham, W. E. Horton and M. F. Nagle, representing Barnum & Bailey, Ringling Brothers and the Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill Wild West.

The Changes Agreed Upon.

The meeting occupied the major portion of the day. Several times it looked like the conflicting forces would be unable to reach an agreement. The billers stated their position very fairly, according to those who were at the meeting, and Charles Ringling presented his side of the case with equal candor. It was one of those controversies in which both sides are right—depending altogether upon the point of view.

The agreement was reached when all interested announced that a change in section three providing for an intermediate scale for billers would be satisfactory. The new section interpolated reads as follows:

"Section 3.—The scale of salaries to be twenty-five dollars per month and ten dollars per month hold back, for the first season men; thirty-five dollars per month with ten dollars per month hold back; forty dollars per month with ten dollars hold back, and forty-five dollars per month and ten dollars hold back per month. Two-thirds of the billposters with each show to receive forty dollars per month and ten dollars hold back per month or better."

It was pointed out at this meeting that the entire agreement was badly worded and this led to the revelation that an attorney was not even consulted in the matter; that the agreement was drawn by the billers themselves. One of the committee explained this by saying that the billers felt that an "understanding" was all that was necessary, considering the character of the men with whom they had to deal, and this jolly made a great hit with the circusmen.

Frank F. Smith, chairman of the circus committee of the International Alliance of Billposters and Billers, stated Monday that the committee would never have receded from the position taken at Brooklyn had not the general agents of the three other shows intimated that changes in section three would be acceptable to them.

"We think the change is really a benefit to us," said Mr. Smith. "It will eliminate the hiring of cheap men by car managers, while on the road. Two-thirds of the men must receive $40 and $10 a month or better. If a high-priced man drops out the show must promote a cheaper man. The change will help us in one instance where a general agent has already signed contracts with a number of cheap men. He must either increase the salaries of some of his billers, cancel some of their contracts or carry a larger force of billers than the show has ever had before.

"The reason Charles Ringling and other circus managers wanted an intermediate scale was in order to look after old billers who had been in their employ many years but were not capable of earning the top scale," continued Mr. Smith. "We wanted to aid these fellows all we could and felt that since the differences dwindled down to this one little point we would be unreasonable to hold out.

"The circus managers who had not signed originally asked that the agreement be cut all to pieces. They did not like the idea of paying the fares of the men back to the opening point, they were dissatisfied with the scale and other provisions did not strike them favorably. Our committee had full power to act and while the billers in convention passed on the agreement we felt certain that no fair-minded man would advise being stubborn when such a slight change was asked.

"The John Robinson show objected to the original agreement and made a stand with the Ringling Brothers.

"The aims of the Alliance is to improve the class of billers. Our desire is to cut out unreliable men and insure the circuses the very best service possible to obtain," he concluded.

101 RANCH WILL OPEN APR. 17 AT PONCA CITY.

Ponca City, Okla., Jan. 28.

The Miller Brothers 101 Ranch will open the tented season of 1909 here Saturday, April 17. Active preparations are now being made for the beginning of the new season and from reports stragglers bring from the ranch at Bliss the wild west will be larger and better than ever next season.

CIRCUS NOTES.

James Orr was in Chicago this week.

Rhoda Royal's Indoor Circus is at St. Paul this week.

The Rhoda Royal show will be at Convention hall in Kansas City week of Feb. 8 and then will appear at St. Joseph, Mo.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press says the Rhoda Royal show is three times as good this year as it was last.

Charles W. Sprague, stenographer to B. E. Wallace, is in New York for a two weeks' visit.

Geo. H. Heiser, formerly connected with Sells-Floto circus, is now general manager of The White City Park, Dayton, Ohio.

Frank Robbins did so well last year that it is reported that he will have a fourteen-car show the coming season.

It is reported that C. I. Norris is considering an engagement with a dog and pony show.

Bob Clements, last season with Norris & Rowe, will not go on the road the coming season.

Bob Simons, with Zinn's Musical Comedy Company, was in Chicago last Saturday.

Lon Williams is still painting the cars for the Rhoda Royal and John W. Gates show.

George Degnon is reported to have been engaged for railroad contractor with the Buffalo Bill Wild West.

Ernest Haag is quoted as saying that he will spend $50,000 more before he has his railroad show ready for the road.

Ernest Haag has named his three private sleeping cars, Shreveport, Caddo and Louisiana.

J. D. Newman, general agent of the Gentry shows, was in Chicago last Friday and Saturday.

The Haag show is bragging about the new band wagon it will carry next season.

There is a rumor around the Windsor-Clifton that Walter L. Main and Frank Lemon mean to take out a twenty-car show this season.

The Gentry Brothers will give ponies away in the big cities next year. The new scheme is expected to prove a profitable advertisement.

Al Salvail, side show manager for Yankee Robinson is in Chicago engaging people for the coming season. He has been playing vaudeville dates this winter.

The Royal Chef company recently paid a visit to the winter quarters of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Show at Peru, Ind., as guests of Col. B. E. Wallace.

Robert Hargrove, ex-circus employe, was tried, convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary in one day at San Bernardino, Cal.

Dare Devil Reul leaping the chasm, and the Segrist Family are the added attractions with Rhoda Royal's Circus at the Auditorium in St. Paul this week.

The young man who frightened the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton Wilson on Jan. 8 has been named Charles Ringling Wilson.

The Van Diemans are more than making good on their coast tour and word comes from Tacoma, Wash., that Jack Sutton and the ladies in the act are happy and prosperous. The Van Diemans are booked up until Nov., 1909, opening about the first of May with the Hagenbeck and Wallace Circus.

Fred Buchanan of the Yankee Robinson shows is in Chicago this week stopping at the Palmer house. His brother, owner of the Des Moines Capital, is also here.

Tom North, who has been in Chicago devising new schemes to boom The Newly Weds and Their Baby for some time, left Thursday for St. Louis where the attraction appears at the Garrick.

C. E. Cory, of the Hagenback-Wallace Show, has purchased a residence property at Peru, Ind., and will erect a fine home for himself and sister. It will be handy to the home of B. E. Wallace.

Mrs. Charles Ringling won the English class cup at the second exhibition of the Baraboo Valley Poultry and Pet Stock Show recently and came within one-fourth of a point of winning another of the silver trophies.

Joe Cole, who was charged with shooting with attempt to wound, was acquitted through the efforts of Walter L. Main and is once more at winter quarters at Geneva, Ohio, where he is employed as a hostler.

Don Wilson, who has been cashier of the candy stands with the Wallace Show and the Hagenbeck-Wallace Show, for a quarter of a century, is spending the winter at his home at Colorado Springs, Col.

A. B. Bennett, for several seasons past twenty-four-hour man with Hagenbeck and Wallace, will not go on the road the coming season, but will be manager of Lakewood Park at Vincennes, Ind. Mr. Bennett was in St. Louis this week, where he purchased a Ferris wheel.

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Markees, Two
Miller, C.
Miller, J.
Mankin, H.
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Manning, Art
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Royal, Rose
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Salisbury, Cora
Serbert, Irene
Stearnes, Flo
Strong, Marjorie
Sylvester, Celia
Violette, Mlle.
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PICTURE EXHIBITORS HOLD STORMY SESSION

(Continued from Page 16)

now in will reap the harvest, if there is any harvest. I believe I have stronger competition than any one in Chicago. My neighbor runs five vaudeville acts and two reels. I run two reels and illustrated songs, and from a financial standpoint I am making more money than any man in Chicago outside of the loop."

Considerable applause greeted Mr. Hines, and as Dan Mulvey jumped to his feet to address the meeting the chairman declared a motion to adjourn carried. Dan pulled off his overcoat and mounting a chair, exhorted the exhibitors to keep their seats. Shrieks and yells almost drowned his voice, as trembling with passion he declared that the chairman had misrepresented matters, and asked for a fair hearing. The hour had grown late, however, many of the exhibitors being in a hurry to get back to their theaters, and those in charge soon cleared the hall.

NOTICE!

We take pleasure in announcing, that as the result of an astounding increase in our business—an increase that necessitates the conserving of our various departments—we have decided to amalgamate our rental department, (known as the National Film Renting Company), and our "Complete Kinodrome Service" department (known as Geo. K. Spoor & Co.) under the new firm name of

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Our business, under the new caption, will be divided into two departments:

The "Rental Department" covering rental of licensed films to exhibitors.

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Our film purchases for this new company for both departments will be virtually doubled—our facilities for the handling of more business ideal.

We solicit your inquiries as to our prices and proposition. They are both interesting.

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Independent Renters Hold Meeting.

Philadelphia, Jan. 25.

The Mutual Protective Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors held a meeting here today at 2625 West Girard avenue. William H. Hamilton is named as local organizer and they claim that fully five thousand exhibitors throughout the country are in line with their own policy of independence. The officers of the association are:

James H. Decatur, president; A. H. Woehleke, Jr., vice-president; J. F. McMahon, treasurer; P. J. Bruskey, secretary; G. J. Naylor, chairman of the executive committee.

Before the meeting of the association yesterday Mark W. Dientenfass, of 1319 Market street, said that assurance from the exhibitors of New York, Pittsburg and other large cities had been received that they would stick with the Philadelphia association in the fight.

Vitagraph Has Earthquake Scoop.

New York, Jan. 28.

The Vitagraph company has scooped all other film manufacturers on the earthquake pictures. They were advertised to be ready last Monday, and would have been had they not been delayed in transit, owing to the fact that they came over in the Baltic which stopped to pick up the ill-fated Republic's passengers. These views were taken by the Paris manager of the Vitagraph company and were brought to America by the London manager of the company. They were projected for the first time in Chicago Wednesday. Pathe followed one day later (Thursday) with his film. The Lubin negative arrived on the Wilhelm der Grosse Tuesday. Kleine's Gaumont films are due Saturday.—WALTER.

Bianchi Camera Is Backed?

New York, Jan. 27.

It is reported here upon good authority that Bianchi has found substantial backing for his camera and projecting machine and that it will be exploited within a few weeks. It is hinted that the Columbia Phonograph company may have taken up the machine, but it is not likely that the Columbia will use its own name in the matter. It is also hinted that the same concern will manufacture films.—WALTER.

JOHN CORT SUES FOR DAMAGES

Salt Lake City, Jan. 26.

John Cort figures that Max Daniels owes him $10,000 for not having the Lyceum theater finished, as contracted, and for defects in it when it was finished. Mr. Cort states in his complaint that he has lost in prestige and that he has been compelled to cancel contracts with companies which would have appeared in the theater had it been finished.

He states further that there has been great loss from not being able to put on the shows he had intended, and that on January 9 he was obliged to close up the house altogether. The rent of $400 a month was paid for January, and this also he wants returned.

BURLESQUE NOTES

Manager Archie Miller, of Minneapolis, has been authorized to offer James J. Jeffries $2,000 for a week's engagement at the Dewey in that city, according to a rumor.

Millie De Leon will join Williams' Ideals for an eight weeks' engagement as a special feature. She will join about March 1.

E. M. Rosenthal, manager of the Bowery Burlesquers, increased the size of his company when he started east. A pony ballet of eight girls joined at the Trocadero in Chicago last week and were a big hit.

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A dramatic episode of most unique construction, showing how the advent of a burglar helped a woman in ridding herself of a persecuting wretch.
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JOHN D. CAREY HAS A SPLENDID POSITION.

Receives $40 a Week and Gets Paid for Fifty-two Weeks in Every Year, Says Ed. C. Knupp.

"John D. Carey receives $40 a week salary and receives pay for 52 weeks in a year."

This was the statement of Ed C. Knupp, general agent of the Cole Brothers Show, who was in Chicago early in the week, and who is in a position to know.

Mr. Knupp divulged this information to settle a dispute in the Gossip Club, mention of which was made in another department of this paper last week.

"I consider Mr. Carey one of the best press agents in America," went on Mr. Knupp, "and while it is true that he manages an advance car in the summer months, the real duties of the position devolve upon the boss billposter, and he is enabled at the same time to attend to the press work and take active charge of the billing when necessary."

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the circus business it may be interesting to note that this salary is considered very good. Board and expenses are always included with a press agent's position or with that of a car manager, which makes his salary equivalent to $60 per week during the summer months.

B. E. WALLACE NOT ILL; VARIETY STORY WRONG.

A few weeks ago Variety published a rumor to the effect that B. E. Wallace would meet the Ringling Brothers at Chicago about Jan. 10 to "join the combine." The rumor, which was played up under a big head, also brought in other circus owners, although in several instances the names used indicated that the article was written by someone unfamiliar with the circus business.

"There are no facts obtainable," the story said, and everyone wondered why it should be played up so prominently if it was not based on facts.

In order to cover their tracks the same paper last week printed that B. E. Wallace had been ill. The correspondent of this paper at Peru, Ind., writes: "B. E. Wallace is in perfect health and is looking twenty years younger than he did two or three years ago."

The Gentry Opening.

Bloomington, Ind., Jan. 28.

The two Gentry shows will open in the South on March 27, leaving here in one train. The two organizations will open within fifty miles of each other.

Harry T. Boyd, a black face comedian, tumbled down an elevator shaft at Iowa City, Iowa, Jan. 21. He will recover.

Henrietta Crosman has completed her vaudeville engagements and is rehearsing her new play, Sham.

John Hays, with the World's Comedy Four, was stricken with paralysis and is at a hospital in California.

Mrs. Clinton "Noodles" Fagan was elected an honorary member of Altoona lodge, No. 97, Theatrical Mechanical Association, by unanimous vote Jan. 19. "Noodles," who is a member of Hartford lodge No. 64, was a visitor to Altoona lodge.

Mlle Tina appeared four weeks with a one-night stand company before making her vaudeville debut in her new act. She is appearing at Danville, Va., this week. The act is managed by H. A. Shallcross.

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The Saratoga Hotel
THE HEADQUARTERS FOR ALL DISCRIMINATING PLAYERS
SPECIAL WEEKLY RATES

MARTIN BECK MAY SECURE MORE CIRCUITS

St. Paul, Jan. 25.

Martin Beck, accompanied by Mark A. Luescher and Pat Casey, was here last week inspecting his Twin City houses.

THE SHOW WORLD correspondent was informed that, while no changes in ownership of Twin City vaudeville houses took place, as was rumored, Mr. Beck is formulating plans by which certain popular price Western circuits will come under Orpheum influence and booking. The party left here Tuesday evening for Butte, Spokane and Seattle.—BARNES.

To Play Independent Attractions.

Webster City, Iowa, Jan. 27.

J Ruben, a merchant and promoter, has leased the Auditorium in Des Moines, Iowa, and will get control Sept. 1. He has been more or less interested in Des Moines amusements for some years. He expects to book all the high class independent attractions which can safely be brought to Des Moines.—TUCKER.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 25.

Fred Lincoln and Mr. Oppenheimer of the Sullivan-Considine interests, paid Butte a visit last Wednesday, to look over their Family theater, take in the Orpheum matinee and hold a conference with Dick P. Sutton, who is a partner in the Butte portion of that circuit.—BILLINGS.

JOHN H. AMMONS HAS RETAINED TWO HOUSES.

Says that He Had Six Houses at One Time, Including "Store Rooms," of Which Logansport Was One.

There appears to have been a conspiracy against John H. Ammons, the Anderson, Ind., amusement magnate, for reports have been sent out from so many points indicating that he had disposed of his chain of theaters that when a correspondent of this paper sent such a report from Logansport, Ind., last week it was presumed to be correct and printed without investigation.

"I did have at one time six houses, including the 'store rooms,' of which Logansport was one," writes Mr. Ammons. "I still have the Anderson and Frankfort theaters."

Mr. Ammons states that he never depends upon theatrical publications to give the correct business of a traveling show or a house in a city and cites as justification that reports are sent in of "good business," "packed houses," "turned 'em away," etc., when those are not the facts in the case. He thinks such reports are misleading to managers and serve to wreck many of them by giving them misleading advice, and while he does not compliment this paper, the arguments advanced are in line with the policy of THE SHOW WORLD to print the truth at all times.

Frank J. O'Brien, who purchased the Crystal at Logansport, may have been responsible for these stories, directly or indirectly. This paper will endeavor to ascertain the facts, which will be published later.

KLAW AND ERLANGER TO BOOK ONE-NIGHTS.

Faribault, Minn., Jan. 27.

A new circuit is being formed in Minnesota which will embrace the following theaters: Mankato theater, Mankato, Minn.; Gem theater, Austin, Minn.; Faribault theater, Faribault, Minn., and the St. Peter Opera house, St. Peter, Minn. The above-named theaters will all be booked through Klaw & Erlanger next season and will work in conjunction with each other. It is the intention of the managers to form a stock company to play these houses throughout the summer months.—CAMPBELL.

Austin, Minn., Jan. 27.

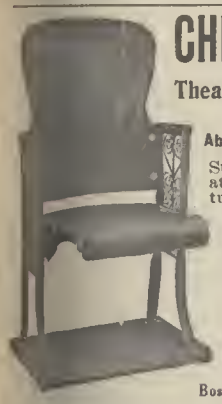
The Gem theater of this city is now booked under the direction of Klaw & Erlanger of New York. This theater has established a reputation of getting more money for attractions than any other town of its size through Minnesota. This theater is the first ground-floor theater Austin ever had and the public shows its appreciation by its big patronage, it being the only ground floor modern theater in the city and being the eastern link of the Clover Leaf circuit, which includes Austin, Mankato, St. Peter and Faribault, Minn.—MAHNKE.

GEORGE COHAN AFTER FILTHY LUCRE NOW.

Akron, Ohio, Jan 26.

Three stories will probably be added to the lobby of the Colonial theater, local Cohan & Harris-Nixon owned house, to be used as business office in the spring according to present plans. Geo. Cohan, during his recent visit here, suggested the change. Cohan has a hobby that all his theaters should have some steady income. The proposed addition can easily be made as the lobby extends from the main part of the house to the street the width of an apartment block. Records have been smashed at both the Colonial and Grand. The Colonial has never had such a month in its history. Nearly every offering has been a sell out. Like conditions have existed at the Grand.—MOORE.

Quincy Adams Sawyer closed the season recently at Joliet, Ill.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Listen, Exhibitors!

I want you to know how I stand on the New Deal in the Moving Picture Business and why---I want you to consider these facts with extreme care.

My whole future as a renter of moving picture films depends on your patronage.

It follows, therefore, that what is best for you is best for me.

Keeping this fact squarely before me all the time, I have signed Thomas Edison's contract, whereby I agree to use none but licensed films.

I didn't do this hastily.

I worried over it, considered it from every phase, talked it over with the managers of my departments, with manufacturers and with exhibitors.

Upon first reading the contract I nearly exploded with surprise.

But first impressions are not always best.

Upon looking into the details I found that the contract gives you (as exhibitors) absolute protection.

Before any other man can open a theater next door to yours and cut your business in two, he will now have to apply for a license from Thomas Edison.

Thereupon Mr. Edison and the Biograph people, operating under the name of the "Motion Picture Patents Company," step in and say, "No!"

You are operating a theater and using licensed films.

You have hundreds or even thousands of dollars tied up in your investment.

Thomas Edison, or rather the "Patents Co.," say you are entitled to protection, and give it—not alone for your own good, but for the general health of the moving picture business.

Years ago the phonograph business went through the same crisis that the moving picture business now faces.

Dealers in phonographs made terrific protests against what they honestly thought was an injustice, but which they afterward learned was their absolute salvation.

The new contract is the salvation of the moving picture business, because it will weed out the crooks and the riff-raff, and places the whole business on a square, honest, commercial basis.

If I had wanted to be dishonest with you, I could have made a glorious grand-stand play by fighting against the contract. I don't deny that it was tempting as an advertising proposition, but it would have been a rank injustice to you.

I could have perhaps made more money than I will now make, but every penny of it would have been a detriment to the moving picture business as a whole.

If you have any doubts on the subject, if you think I am not acting for your good (and therefore my own good), write me and ask all the questions you can think of.

Let's chew this thing over from start to finish, make up our minds that we are right and then go ahead and plug the game for all we are worth.

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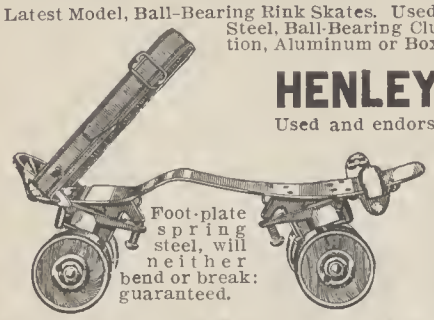

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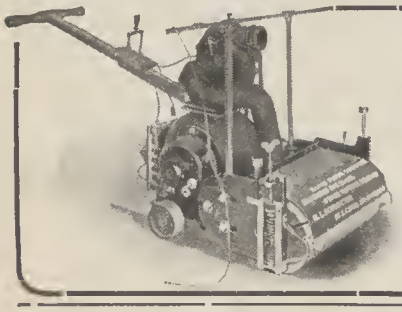

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A LIQUID. (Patent Applied For.)

A new invention—costs no more than pumice, whiting, rosin or chalk. A boy can apply it, taking about ten minutes to cover the average size rink, it drying as rapidly as applied. It will eliminate all slipperiness from the skating surface. Positively no dust. It will not retard the free, easy running of the skates. One application will last a week. If you were to rub the palm of your hand on the skating surface you would find your hand covered with black; the same experiment after using Dustless Anti-Slip on the floor and your hand would be clean. Five gallons would last an entire season. It is applied by means of one of our machines, which we furnish free of charge. You would no more think of running a rink without Dustless Anti-Slip after once using it than you would of trying to operate with the old style pin-bearing skate. An experienced rink man can see at a glance it is the only practical method of treating the skating surface. Write for our book "A New Era in Roller Skating"—mailed free.

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SKATING NEWS

Huntington, Ind.—E. G. Darling and Brother have leased the Clayton rink.

Barry, Ill.—The new Coliseum rink has opened.

Wausa, Neb.—Carl Carlson has bought a half interest in the local rink.

Scranton, Pa.—Manager Phillips, of the Armory rink, had a skating carnival this week and gave away handsome prizes.

Louisville, Ky.—Graceful skating contests have proved a big drawing card at the Coliseum.

Austin, Minn.—Bertha Doud Mack is the attraction at Maurek's rink this week, and big attendance has resulted.—DAIGNEAU

New Martinsville, W. Va.—Fred Hall, of Pine Grove, has rented the opera house and will convert it into a skating rink.

Athens, Ga.—The skating rink has opened at the old stand under the new management of Messrs. Haywood and Von der Leith.

Salem, Ohio.—A race between Carl Book, of Alliance, and Charley Powell, of this city, attracted great attention at the local rink. A race for girls will be an added attraction this week.

St. Joseph, Mo.—Manager J. C. Meyers, of the Auditorium, plans to hold an ice Marathon. The distance to be 26 miles and 285 yards—the regular Marathon distance.

Portland, Me.—The Express says: "The Roll-Away skating rink still continues to be the most popular amusement enterprise that has been offered Portland people for many years."

Fairbury, Neb.—Katie May Bradley and W. A. LaDuque closed a successful three night's engagement at the roller rink here. Standing room was at a premium every night.—DEMING.

Webster City, Iowa.—J. S. Johnson, of Sioux City, has opened the old Meekins and Sackett roller rink in this city. He has refurnished it throughout and has put in new equipment.—TUCKER.

North Adams, Mass.—The Nichols Brothers desire to notify their friends that their permanent address is this city, general delivery. W. F. Orr is their manager.

Robinson, Ill.—The rink here, under the management of Wiseman, is enjoying the very best of patronage; every afternoon and evening sessions are held. Fielding and Carlos were a big hit at the Lyric theater this week.

Quincy, Ill.—The Bijou roller rink has been attracting good throngs and the huge pavilion at High and Park, which has one of the finest floors in this part of the country, has been booking attractions for some time.—SCHOENEMAN.

St. Joseph, Mo.—Don Stuart has contracted with Harley Davis for an appearance at Rolloway, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Local talent will compete with Davis during his engagement.

Hutchinson, Kans.—The Daily Gazette says: "It is doubtful if there ever was an athlete who is a better all round man than Jack Fotch." The article continues for a half column full of Fotch praise. Fotch played here all this week and was a big hit.

Charlotte, N. C.—Combination skating and dancing is proving a feature at the Auditorium rink. The first session from 7:30 to 9, is devoted to skating, while the last session from 9 until 10:30 is devoted to dancing. The scheme is proving profitable.

Elgin, Ill.—The Coliseum rink is packing them in every night. Extensive improvements have been made in the rink by the removal of the pillars that supported the roof and trussing. The rink now has 1,400 s. ft. of floor space.—BARTLETT.

Grafton, W. Va.—The Daily Republican says: "The Q'Karos appeared for the first time last night and certainly took the house by storm. . . There was not a moment during the entire exhibition when the big building was not shaken by well merited applause."

Birmingham, Ala.—The team of Coleman and LaMont has cancelled all of their winter time. Mr. Coleman is now connected with the Jefferson theater in Birmingham, and Miss LaMont is at her home in New York. They will be seen together this summer with a large act.

Vincennes, Ind.—The Coliseum skating rink, operated by C. C. Gosnell, has been closed, Mr. Gosnell leasing Lakewood rink, at Lakewood Park, one of the best rinks in this section of the country. Mr. Gosnell enjoyed a good business at the Coliseum, which will probably be increased in his new quarters.

Vincennes, Ind.—The two mile race held at the Auditorium, the first of a series in which Washington and Vincennes skaters will compete for the championship of the two cities, resulted in a victory for Noble Swing, Washington's speediest skater. Races will be held each Saturday until the trio of events is completed.

Indiana, Pa.—A local paper says: "Johnston and Hausman, two boys from St. Mary's, are presenting the finest skating and acrobatic work ever seen here at the Palace rink. . . The Boy Wonders imitate a drum corps in action when on skates and do a number of running and high jumping acts that delighted a large audience."

Western Skating Association Notes.

Bush is the fastest 220-yard skater in the world, and won the 220-yard race at the International races at Montreal, Canada, last year against Ed. Lamey and all the fast ones.

* * *

Anderson will meet the fastest group of skaters the western championships have brought together in several years. Horne, Fisher, Kaad and many other stars will be on hand. Rankin, Fisher and Kaad won events at the championships recently held at Minneapolis and are expected to be strong in the events at Milwaukee.

* * *

Leonard Allen, brother of John Allen, champion professional speed skater of Europe, has entered the speed skating championships to be held in Cleveland Jan. 26 and 27. This will be the first appearance of Allen in any competition in this country. He lives at the present time at Detroit, Mich., and in practice contests has equaled the records of the present amateur champions in the various events.

* * *

* * *

Six bicycle riders beat six roller skaters by half a lap in a five mile race at Riverview rink, Jan. 23. The time was 13:06. Joe Samlow, Lee Koehler, N. Koehler, A. Anderson, Ray Curtis and W. Matson rode the bicycles and John McDonald, Frank Hennessy, Chas. Smith, Al. Hende, D. D. Driscoll and B. Gemski were the skaters. Samlow won the mile bicycle race.

* * *

Carl W. Ahlroth, the Duluth, Minn., speed skater, sent a letter into the W. S. A. explaining that he did not think he would be able to go east with the western skaters this season on account of the illness of his wife. Ahlroth went east last year and won many prizes in Pittsburg, Saranac Lake, Montreal and Cleveland. He won the half mile and one mile at Saranac Lake and the half mile and two miles at Montreal.

* * *

There is a story being circulated in the east in which young Lamey is credited with making the statement that he would not skate on the circuit this winter unless a fund was raised here to pay the expenses of himself and his father. This is entirely incorrect. There was a movement to have a tag day at Saranac Lake, N. J., to raise money to pay the senior Lamey's expenses on the circuit with Edmund, but this has been abandoned, as they did not want anything to happen that would injure young Lamey's standing as an amateur.

* * *

G. C. Appelt, member of the registration committee of the W. S. A., went to Elgin, Ill., this week to arrange for the big carnival and amateur races that are to be held there in February. Arrangements have been made for a special to be run from Chicago and return at 2 a. m., after the carnival. Special skating carnivals will also be promoted at Aurora, Joliet, Kankakee and several other towns within easy reach of Chicago, as this new move seems to have taken the young skaters who like to have an outing, but who do not care to travel too far to get it.

* * *

Results of the races at Hippodrome rink, Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 13, 14 and 15: Girl's race, 8 entries, 5 starters, was won by Ella La Grange; Emma Bruhm, second. Time, 2:00 2-5. Medal awarded. Half-mile boy's novice race, 32 entries, three heats, 8-11-10 starters, respectively: First heat was won by Tom Devine; Alfred Turner, second. Second heat won by Matt McCormick, Jr.; W. H. Tracy, Jr., second. Third heat won by Herman Lockerman; Art Maloney, second. Final heat, six starters, won by Herman Lockerman; Art Maloney second. Time, 3:32. Medals awarded.

* * *

The ice skaters left Saturday night for the International races at Cleveland, Ohio. Among them were Anderson, Kaad and Fisher, the western stars, who will compete in the national indoor events at the Elysium rink Tuesday and Wednesday nights, and as the ice is artificial the races will be a go regardless of the weather. Western Skating officials who will leave Monday night are: Joseph Marshall, president; Julian T. Fitzgerald, secretary and treasurer and chairman of the Registration Commission; Phil. Lauth, chairman of the Board of Control; Allen I. Blanchard, honorary president; Nester Johnson, member of the racing board; H. Huseby, vice-president, and many others.

* * *

Sanction has been granted to the Northwest Skating club by the Western Skating Association, for a program of speed skating races to be held at Humboldt park Jan. 31. Classes A, B and C (novices), are among the events on the program, all being at one-mile. A half-mile boy's race is also listed. Entries close with Nester Johnson, 638 North California avenue, on Jan. 28. This cosmopolitan club was organized in 1904 and consists of skaters in the vicinity of Humboldt park. It has nearly two hundred members, and among them are some of the fastest skaters in the west. They have successfully drawn off several racing events with great credit to the club. Adolph C. G. Anderson, the amateur star, is a member of this club.

* * *

At a meeting of the Wisconsin Skating Association, it was decided to nominate the following members for official positions in the Western Skating Associa-

FOR SALE RINK

In town of 13,000 with two other towns to draw from. Full particulars,

J. HERING, Iola, Kansas

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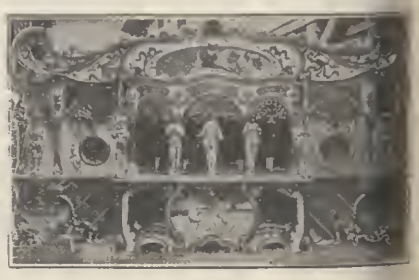
ORGANS

For **SUMMER PARKS**, Shows, Carnival Co's., Dance Halls, Skating Rinks and Merry-GO-Rounds.



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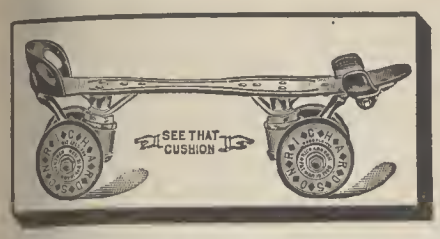

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tion, according to the constitution of the skating association: Vice-President, C. A. Rush; State Board of Control, Thos. S. Andrews, of the Evening Wisconsin; State Board of Governors, Norval P. Barkdoll; Racing Committee, Henry Sperber; Press Committee, E. G. Kuechmeister; Registration Committee, Chas. T. Fisher; Handicapper, Edward Rusch; Figure Skating, E. C. Hill; Finance Committee, Frank Howend.

The members are working hard to create a lot of interest in the Western outdoor championships which were postponed from Jan. 23 and 24 to a later date, and hope to have some of the best races ever held in the west.

* * *

Chicago skaters will be well represented in the western outdoor skating championships, to be held in Milwaukee next Saturday and Sunday, which were postponed from Jan. 23 and 24. More than twenty-five local men have signified their intention of competing there. Among them will be Adolph A. C. Anderson, who will defend his title of western champion. He was kept out of the indoor championships Jan. 15 and 16 at Minneapolis, on account of an injury to his knee. It was thought he would be out of the game for the entire season, but the injured member healed more quickly than expected and he has decided to go to Milwaukee. Anderson has purchased knee protectors which will keep him in shape and also protects him from any other injuries. He is practicing hard and says he hopes to retain his title.

* * *

E. N. Dickinson, manager of the Hippodrome skating rink of Minneapolis, Minn., is dissatisfied with the recent events held there and in which Kaad of Chicago, Chas. T. Fisher of Milwaukee, Carl Ahlroth of Duluth, Minn., and Chas. Rankin of St. Paul, competed. In a letter to Allen I. Blanchard he says: "In connection with the races held here do you wonder that the public of Minneapolis and St. Paul does not warm up to the amateur speed skating, when the boys go out and loaf during a race as they did here, after putting up a spirited race in the shorter distances? You observed the spectators were disgusted with this sort of racing, especially those of Minneapolis, who have seen such star skaters as Johnny Nilssen, John S. Johnson, Jack McCulloch, Axel Paulson and Norval Baptie."

* * *

Word has been received at the headquarters of the Western Skating Association from Arthur F. Ellis of Minneapolis, C. A. Ely of St. Louis, and Dr. H. A. Whytock of Salt Lake City, that they will enter the International amateur figure skating championships to be held at Cleveland at the Elysium rink ice palace, Feb. 24 and 25. They write that they have received the program of events and are busily engaged in training for the various events. The ice has been good in their home towns and if it lasts until the championships they are confident of making a good showing. This is the first time in fifteen years that the International amateur figure skating contests have been held in the west, and they were secured through the efforts of the Western and Canadian associations. Heretofore the events have been held in New York. The promoters of the latter association made a strong fight to get them this time, but the two organizations proved too strong. There will be several skaters from Chicago in the championships and C. Hill, a former star fancy skater, is training a class in Milwaukee for the contests. Minneapolis and St. Paul will send two or more and several are expected to come from the east.

* * *

In reply to the challenge that appeared last week and made by P. T. Harmon, manager of Riverview rink in behalf of Fred Tyrrell, to skate a match race with Wm. Robinson, the American amateur champion, Al. Flath states that he is anxious to have the match materialize, and that there should be three races, and for which each prize should be to the value of thirty-five dollars which is the limit amateurs can skate for, and one race to be decided each night.

Robinson has been good and busy all long and has won every race in which he has skated in the past two months. He is not a one track champion as he has skated matches at various rinks in and out of Chicago, and has won a string of thirteen races, of which three were scratch, three match, and seven handicaps.

Flath also said that the records that have been credited to Tyrrell, by Harmon, were not sanctioned and were not officiated by officials of the Western Skating Association. Now if Harmon is sincere in the acceptance to the above proposition he will certainly get the match.

* * *

Allie Moore, the world's professional roller skater, broke the world's record in the half-mile against time in the first night's race against time with Fred Tyrrell, the Illinois state champion, Wednesday evening, Jan. 20, at Riverview rink. In the half-mile Tyrrell, paced by "Nip" Melzer, the speedy amateur from Sans Souci rink, set the pace for one and a half laps when Tyrrell went out and finished the race in 1:16 1-5 seconds, no doubt his time would have been faster had the pace been regulated better. Then came Allie Moore's turn, he was paced by Henry Becker, the crack amateur who turned professional in order to pace Moore and Joe Munch of Minneapolis. The pace was perfect and at the finish Moore's time was 1:14 1-5 seconds, a new world's record. In the mile against time Tyrrell, started out paced by Melzer, at a furious clip, and the time for the first half mile was estimated a couple of seconds faster than his half mile in the first race, but the pace was too much for him, and he collapsed after covering four and one-half laps. Moore came out and covered his mile in 2:32 2-5, which is two-fifths of a second slower than his own world's record, made on the same track last May. In between the trials the one-mile class "B" race for amateurs was run. There were two heats and a final, in which 12 starters faced Louis Winkler the starter. The final was won by Chas. Berthlein, Alfred Hengst finished second, and Frank Hennessy third. Time, 2:49 2-5.

The second night's racing against time was started by Tyrrell, going out for the one quarter mile paced by "Nip" Melzer, and finished in 37 3-5 seconds. Allie Moore, paced by Henry Becker, then covered the distance in 37 flat, beating Tyrrell by 3-5 seconds, which gave Moore a clean sweep of the record trials of ¼, ½ and 1 mile. The final of the class "C" race had 14 starters which was run in two heats and a final, and was won by Geo. Jackson, J. Pflugradt second, and Andrew Kunz third. Time, 3:05.

* * *

The two roller races that were put on at the roller rink at Racine, Wis., Jan. 19, were the fastest and most exciting races ever run in Racine by amateurs. There was an extra large crowd present to witness the races and when the last lap of the race was being run the majority of the crowd was on its feet cheering for their favorite. In the first race there were five starters. The track was 14 lans

PREMIER ROLLER SKATING ATTRACTIONS

RINKS — VAUDEVILLE — PARKS

This department is not affiliated with any organizations, all professional skaters are invited to send in their press notices and reports of the condition of business in that part of the country in which they are playing, and any items of news occuring along their route. Address THE SHOW WORLD Chicago.

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Refined and Graceful

Trick, Fancy and Comedy Skatorial Artists, introducing their new Singing and Dancing act. The Hit of the Season. Changing program each performance.

W. F. LA SALLE

America's Accomplished Trick and Fancy Skater

Introducing Coast of Death

Ending with Flying Leaps over 12 chairs and 2 men. Address, Care The Show World, Chicago.

THE HARRAHS

Presenting a High-Class, Refined and Elegantly Costumed Sketch, entitled:

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Using the famous "Triangle Skates."

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JENNIE HOUGHTON

Roller Skater. Refined, renowned artist travels on honestly won laurels. Is a star of high order. Pittsburg Herald says: "A marvel of grace and skill." Permanent address,

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BOY WONDERS

In their many novelties and feats of daring skill and balance

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Master HARLEY A. MOORE

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The phenomenal boy wonder, doing difficult feats on his original triangular stilts. Now playing the Middle States. Address Chanute, Kansas.

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THE THRILLER,

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JACK FOTCH

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Trick and Fancy Skater, in His Daring

DASH OF DEATH

Down a 2 inch Gas Pipe 30 feet long, set on an angle of 45 degrees.

Now Playing A. R. M. A. Rink Circuit

STRASBURGER, the Great

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America's Favorite Skaters and Dancers, featuring Buck and Wing Dancing, Hurdle Jumping and Backward Speed Skating Rink and Vaudeville Mgrs. write quick for open time.

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For open time Spring and Summer, write now to 73 Broad Street, New York. Booked Solid for the Winter Season. If you are looking for a cheap act, save your postage

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Skaters and Dancers Par Excellence

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"A SINGLE FACT OUTWEIGHS A THOUSAND CLAIMS"

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W. A. LaDUQUE

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The Q'Karos at the rink this week are the best team that ever appeared here. One of the great features is the Electric Spray in which they wheel and turn so fast that they resemble a ball of electric spray. The aerial dance, the rope skipping and high jumping are all features.—Madison Daily Herald.

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to the mile. Henry Ehlers was first, Wm. Long was second, the time was 3:48. The principal race of the evening was between Miss Ella LaGrange, the lady champion of Milwaukee, and Chris Evenson, who won last Tuesday's race. This race was very exciting. The young lady made a good start and got the lead which she held for one lap, when Evenson passed her, and when he crossed the tape he was only forty feet in the lead. For the next six laps she was close behind him and held him very close at the finish, which he won in 3:30 seconds, which is considered excellent time for this rink, as Allie Moore, the champion roller skater, who was here a few days ago covered the same distance in a few seconds less. Evenson will undoubtedly be put on with some fast racer from Milwaukee within a short time.

* * *

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 25.

The new Music Hall skating rink will open the biggest series of races undoubtedly ever pulled off in this country, commencing February 1. There will be over one hundred entries and it will require over three weeks to complete the races. Medal prizes will be given to the winners. —CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

* * *

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 25.

The Coliseum roller skating rink, which was burned down recently, may be rebuilt. That is the plan which Captain R. A. Koontz, one of the owners of the rink, favors, at a cost of $16,000, so as to be ready to open at the beginning of the next skating season.—SMITH.

Exhibitors Incorporate.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 21.

The Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association, of Cincinnati, and vicinity, will be incorporated. Papers for this purpose will probably be sent to Columbus today. The following will be the incorporators: Matt. Spaeth, John J. Huss, E. P. Bernardi, T. J. Nolan and A. Hill. The incorporation will not be capitalized, as it will not be run for profit. The association was formed to keep affairs of the motion picture shows up to the highest notch of efficiency.—CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

Merry Widow at Davenport.

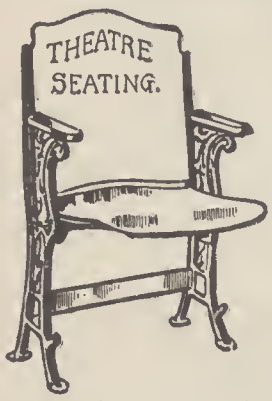
Davenport, Ia., Jan. 27.

Capacity houses greeted the three performances of The Merry Widow at the Burtis in this city. The house was sold out before the curtain was rung up at either performance. The audiences were as enthusiastic as they were large and tremendous ovations were given Miss Mabel Wilbur and George Dameral, who essayed the leading parts. The receipts for the three performances were $5,640.—HARRISON.

Lincoln Memorial Benefit.

New York, Jan. 27.

Benjamin Chapin will present Lincoln at the White House at the Garden, Feb. 5 and 6 for the benefit of the Lincoln Memorial Fund.



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BUFFALO EXPOSITION IS WELL UNDER WAY.

Buffalo, Jan. 28.

What promises to be the greatest al fresco entertainment in which this city has indulged since the famous Pan-American, is now well under way. June 19 to July 5 are the dates which have been decided upon by the managers of the Buffalo Mid-Summer Exposition of 1909. The fourteen days thus alloted, will be given over to representative New York state exhibits; particular attention being paid to the industries.

The amusement end of the 14 days will be well taken care of with a program that will make each day a busy one. The attractions include Pageant of Buffalo, Automobile races and Floral Auto parade, Wild West and Hippodrome track races, Musical Ride, Military Tattoo and Massed Band contests, Athletic games, Airship races, a large spectacle with the early history of Buffalo as its theme, employing over six hundred performers, not to mention an array of free out door features and acts that is promised to eclipse anything in point of magnitude that has heretofore been attempted in the summer amusement field.

Over one hundred thousand free tickets will be issued the local public through the members of this enterprise. A number of well known musical organizations have already been booked. It is the aim of the committee in charge to make the Exposition a permanent fixture for New York state folks that will mean for Buffaloians all that the Toronto Exhibition in Canada is to that city.

To Boost A. Y. P.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 28.

To boost the A. Y. P. Exposition a special train will leave here Feb. 20, via Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific, under the auspices of the Seattle and Tacoma chambers of commerce.

Park and Fair Notes.

Highland Park, at Quincy, Ill., is to be enclosed by a fine iron fence during the coming summer season, when a nominal price of admission is to be charged. Free and paid attractions are to be featured in the grounds. The pavilion is of solid lime stone and is claimed to have cost $20,000.

Oklahoma's next state fair will be held in Oklahoma City Sept. 28 to Oct. 8.

Krug Park Gets License.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 19.

Krug Park has been granted a liquor license for the coming season by the Benson city council. Benson is a suburb of Omaha. Last season Krug Park was closed by injunction filed by the Bensonites and summer residence dwellers on the outskirts of Omaha. The Park was idle the latter part of the season and lost a great deal of money. The opening this season depended, to a great extent, upon the granting of the liquor license. The W. C. T. U. and the reform lawyers of Omaha waged a fierce war against the giving of the license, but Krug Park won out and the pretty place will again swing open its gates.—SMYTH.

ILLINOIS NOTES.

Joliet.—Helen Betram saw her daughter act in The Man from Home when it appeared here recently.

Sycamore.—Richard Ross, advance representative of The Power of Truth, was entertained by Eddie Harte during his stay here. Mr. Harte was formerly a well known agent.

Urbana.—After three unsuccessful attempts by moving picture concerns to start a paying show in this city, Herman Linstein has put on a high class entertainment which is drawing a full house every night.—REA.

Urbana.—Charles P. Sale, known in vaudeville as "Chick Earle," was, until a year ago, employed as a machinist at the Big Four shops here. He is now making good on a circuit in the southwest.—REA.

Moline.—A Girl at the Helm broke all records for a single performance at the Moline theater on Thursday, January 21. Every seat was sold before the doors opened and about a hundred were sold standing room at the rear of the parquet. The gallery was so filled that the doors were closed and admittance refused to any more. The Black Crook, Jr., played to big business on Saturday, Jan. 23. The show is an out and out burlesque and pleased the men. Dora Thorne, Jan. 24, and Human Hearts, Jan. 31, are the only other bookings this month.—J. R.

Watseka.—Ed. B. and Rollo White at the Family this week.

CRITICISED ADVERSELY ACTOR TRIES TO DIE.

Waterbury, Conn., Jan. 25.

Despondent because of adverse criticism of his work, George H. Wood, sixty years old, a monologist appearing at a local vaudeville theater, attempted suicide by shooting, in his hotel Friday morning. When told he would recover, Wood remarked: "Well, I miss the mark as badly with a gun as I do with my line of talk."

Cameraphone Bills Like a Circus.

Barney Shea, manager of a cameraphone road show, is billing his organization like a circus through Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, with special paper. Plenty of fence stuff is being used. The repertoire consists of popular attractions.

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The eyes of the theatrical world are turned today upon the fight between the Chicago Examiner and the houses controlled in Chicago by the Klaw & Erlanger interests. It is not the first fight of its kind, but it is undoubtedly unique in the fact that it was precipitated by a woman, and that her employers have stood by her loyally. Often, under similar circumstances, a writer is discharged for invoking the wrath of the powers that be in theaterdom, hence, the present situation presents a most remarkable example of fearlessness. The Examiner has lost the advertising of the Colonial and Auditorium theaters, the value of which has been estimated at $10,000 a year. The article which caused the rupture occupied but little more than two sticks of space—about five inches of printed matter, to be nearly exact, and was written by "Forrest Arden"—the pen name of Frances Wayne.

This is not the first time that Frances Wayne has entered into the limelight. She gained an enviable reputation for frankness and sincerity in her dramatic criticisms in Denver, where she held the "desk" on the Denver Post. It was her work in Denver which attracted the attention of the Hearst interests and she was invited to write reviews for the Examiner.

A photograph of Frances Wayne appears upon the front cover of this issue.

Miss Schaffner Has New Skit.

Lillyan Shaffner, whose separation from her husband, B. M. Shaffner, a prominent Chicago attorney, received considerable attention in the press recently, rehearsed her skit, A Pair of Corsets, for a tryout at the Majestic theater, Chicago, this week. Harry Keenan is the comedian. Leslie M. Hunt takes the part of old man Clarke, Alfred G. Cooper is the bell boy and Irene Budd the ingenue.

O. G. Seymour Here.

O. G. Seymour of Seymour and Dupree is in town this week. He has played nearly all of the eastern vaudeville time and has received sufficient money to enable him to carry Mrs. Seymour and their baby with him.

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SALT LAKE NOTES.

A number of changes in the personnel of the attaches of the Colonial and Grand theaters are noticeable this week. Ernest Young, who has been with the former as treasurer since its opening has accepted the management of the Garden theater of Chicago, and has left for his new field of endeavor. He has been succeeded by Fred Langtree, formerly his assistant. Mr. Langtree came here from the Lincoln Square theater, New York, and is an active, energetic young man, who is quite capable of fulfilling the requirements of his new post. Tory Cavallo, who will assist Mr. Langtree in the box office, is by no means a newcomer in the show business. He acted as treasurer of the Majestic, Cleveland, last season, and has been associated in the past with the Colonial at Richmond, the Orpheum at Harrisburg, and others. F. R. Muth has been appointed doorkeeper, vice Con Lyon, resigned. Mr. Muth is manager of the the Merchants' Detective agency of this city, and is an old show man.

At the Grand, Manager Held has found the work too arduous to permit him to engage in it as well as his regular business, and has accordingly resigned. William T. Binford, who has purchased an interest in the Grand, and in the White Rat vaudeville circuit, has arrived from Denver, and will immediately assume the management. Associated with him is A. B. Jensen, recently interested in the Elite of this city, and formerly in the show business in Boise, Baker City and other western towns. The vaudeville dates will commence Feb. 1, and with improved shows and a completely renovated house, the managers are confident that the "Cosy" Grand wil take on a new lease of life.

Mention was made some time ago in these columns of the closing of the New Lyceum, Cort's latest house, on account of the owner of the building refusing to complete it. A suit has been filed against the owner, and in the meantime, the house will open in spite of the fact that the exterior is unfinished. Willard Mack and his excellent stock company, who have been pleasing well-filled houses at the Colonial of late, has been secured to fill an indefinite engagement. Plays of high grade are promised, and Mr. Mack's popularity will assist in drawing a good share of patronage toward the Bungalow, as the Lyceum has been re-christened. Mr. R. A. Grant is manager of both the Colonial and Bungalow, his assistant for the latter not having been appointed.—JOHNSON.

MINNEAPOLIS NOTES.

Minneapolis, Jan. 25.

C. H. Miles will go to Detroit, Mich., Thursday on business in connection with the building of the new Miles theater in that city. Kees and Colburn, who drew the plans of the Orpheum and The Miles in this city, are the architects.

"Tooze" Rogers, owner of the Unique in this city will build a vaudeville house in Fargo, N. D., to be opened about Sept. 1. It will be somewhat larger than their local house and the prices will be ten, twenty and thirty.

The local management refused to make any statement to THE SHOW WORLD regarding the item from Fargo in last week's issue, which stated Mr. Rogers contemplated changing from Sullivan & Considine to Orpheum bookings.

New vaudeville patronage seems to have been created in this city, as all five houses appear to be doing as well in proportion as the three did formerly. At the new Miles, now on its fifth week, business opened big and continues good. At the Family, Manager Priest says business has shown a gratifying percentage of increase every week for the six weeks the house has been open. At the older houses, the Unique and the Gem, competition seems to have strengthened their bills and first-class shows for the money are given. The Orpheum at higher prices is prosperous with their regular clientele.—BARNES.

Singer Aids T. M. A.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 28.

Word has been received from Mort Singer that the T. M. A's can draw upon his two companies, The Honeymoon Trail and The Girl at the Helm company for their benefit Feb. 5. The T. M. A's are arranging a big ball. Wallace Munro has volunteered his services in preparing for the benefit.—BARNES.

Hunting a New Name.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 27.

Manager Priest, of the Family theater, is conducting a contest to decide on a new name for his house. Over 4,000 suggested names have been received to date.—BARNES.

Air Dome for Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 25.

Fletch M. Catron and Will S. Albert, owner and manager respectively of the Orpheum vaudeville theater at this place, announce that they have secured option on a suitable location for an air-dome or open air theater and will begin, at an early date, the actual construction of this amusement enterprise.—FRAWLEY.

Princess Omene is back on the Sullivan & Considine time and is doing three acts. Over in Michigan she is using her rope act and has given up dancing, cut out the dancing. "Back to dear Old Montana soon" she writes.

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Webster City, Iowa, Jan. 28.

Belle Hathaway, who is on the Orpheum circuit with a group of performing monkeys, has brought suit against the Chicago, Great Western Railroad for $6,000 for the loss of three of the animals. They were smothered to death while on the way to Kansas City. The baggageman placed their cage on top of a coil of steam pipe. The animals were unusually intelligent. Their stunt included a fine boxing match and a trip alone through the audience giving away candy and peanuts.—TUCKER.

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Week Jan. 25, Champaign, Ill.

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In view of the many conflicting statements that are being made regarding the Gaumont films, a representative of THE SHOW WORLD called upon George Kleine, who stated:

"I shall continue to market standard films made at the several Gaumont factories of London and Paris under contract with Mr. Gaumont, which was consummated several months ago.

"Gaumont films will not be marketed in this country through any other agency. My license covers standard films only and has no bearing upon the Gaumont talking pictures, in which I am not commercially interested."

ONE NIGHT STANDS

L. H. Dibble, who has successfully managed the Faribault theater at Faribault, Minn., for two seasons, has leased it for three years more. At the close of the present season $5,000 will be expended on improvements.

Hubert Labadie has been at his camp in Michigan this winter. He did not put out a company at all this season. Mary Van Tromp came to Chicago a few weeks ago and is the guest of friends in this city.

The Hall Room Boys is rehearsing at the Thirty-First street theater in Chicago and will take the road shortly. It is said that a Miss Morton is the backer.

Eugene Moore had the second best week of his season, according to Fred G. Conrad, week of Jan. 18-23.

The opera house at Bristow, Okla., burned down Jan. 18.

Hutchinson, Kan., had 17 shows in 16 nights recently. As told in these columns last week seven shows appeared there in six nights—two shows playing there on the same night. That city does not appear to be suffering for attractions.

A Night in College had a scrimmage among its members at Hutchinson, Kansas, recently according to report and the manager was obliged to close with the company.

Peck's Bad Boy, which was in the west, closed after a fight in the company. It is reported that the manager left suddenly with the receipts when he saw that the members of the company were in such a humor that it would be imposible to continue the tour.

A manager in a Pennsylvania town of 15,000 gave up $900 for the booking of his attractions last season. "It was not a very good season either" he writes. He gave five per cent of the gross to an eastern booking office.

Ed Anderson's The Farmer's Daughter had an $800 week at Salt Lake City recently.

Fred G. Conrad has renewed his contract with Edwin Milton Royle by which he will have the rights to My Boy Jack for several more seasons.

Smith-Daly.

Youngstown, Ohio, Jan. 19.

Charles E. Smith, manager of the Princess theater, and Marie Daly, employed at the Princess as a singer of illustrated songs, were married in this city Jan. 13.

Forest Amusement Park

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

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